

MARCH 2011



HOOFBEATS

NEWSLETTER OF THE NOVATO JUNIOR HORSEMEN

Check out our website: www.novatohorsemen.com

President's Message (Michael):

(See page 2 for Heidi's message)

Hi Everyone,
It was so good to see so many new faces at our first meeting. We had a great taco bar dinner and ended up with some awesome singing by Dan Steadman and s'mores around the campfire. Looking forward to a lot of great demonstrations and guest speakers at our meetings this year. Hope to see you all at the next meeting.
-Michael



JUNIOR BOARD:

Co-Presidents:

Michael Magner 472-2994, l.magner@comcast.net
Heidi Schmitz 892-8076, erik.mary2@verizon.net

Treasurer:

Jenna Manger 472-2994, l.magner@comcast.net

Secretary:

Michelle Nielsen 254-5509, sblackhorse72@yahoo.com
mnielsen223@gmail.com

Members -At-Large:

Kendal Scheiner 897-9715 valscheiner@yahoo.com
Erika Schmitz 892-8076, erik.mary2@verizon.net
Morgan Schmitz 892-8076, erik.mary2@verizon.net
Will Steadman 892-8084 steady99@comcast.net

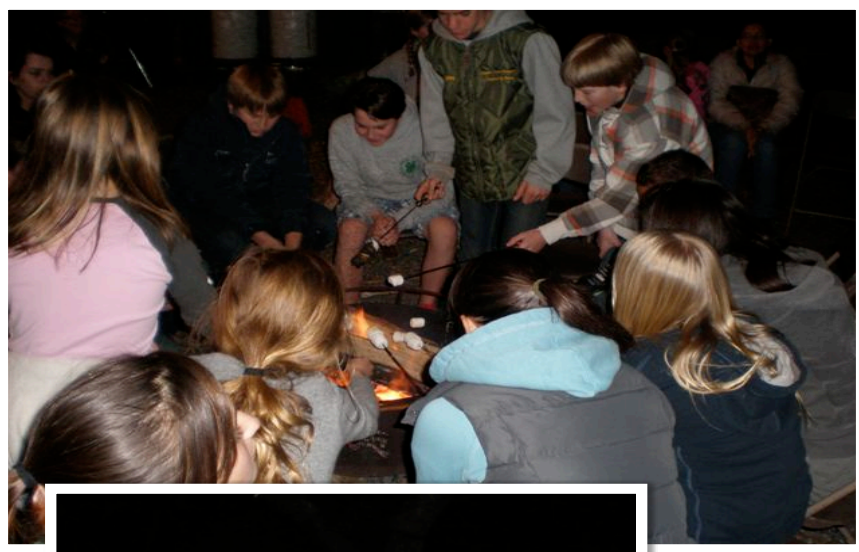
JUNIOR ADVISORS:

Norm Dunham 902-1847 smalldaschund@yahoo.com
Karen Kilian 897-0794
Lauren Magner 472-2994, l.magner@comcast.net

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

<p>3/1 RSVP's due for the dinner at general meeting erik.mary2@verizon.net or 892-8076</p>	<p>3/8 6 PM – Dinner 6:30 – General Meeting</p>	<p>3/13 Daylight Savings Begins Change clocks "forward" 1 hour</p>	<p>3/24 Farm Day @ Marin Civic Center 9-12</p>	<p>4/1 membership forms due today or \$5 late fee applies!</p>
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FEBRUARY MEETING FUN!!!



President's Message (Heidi): It was nice to see everyone again! I am glad we brought all of our friends, and it looked like everybody had a good time! And how could it be otherwise with a taco dinner, campfire, songs with Dan Steadman on his guitar, and roasting marshmallows! The days are getting longer, which means more time with our horses. I hope everyone had as much fun as I did, and look forward to seeing everybody with your friends at the next meeting, March 8th.

Happy Trails!

Heidi

Meeting Minutes, recorded by Michelle Nielsen, Secretary, on 02/08/11:

- Meeting start at 6:35
- Pledge of allegiance led by Will Steadman
- Treasurer report: Jenna Magner
- Karen: calendar report and gate keys
- Mary: signups for meetings and membership
- New Business: Crab Feed February 12th
- Steve: Farm Day March 24th 9am-12pm
- Theme for farm day: voted on timeline of horse drawn carriages to cars. Also, carriage rides, vaulting, and roping demos. Gary will bring covered wagon.
- Swearing in new members: 1st motion by Sarah Hambly, seconded by Nicholas Cruise
- Next meeting: dinner at 6:00, starts at 6:30
- Senior board (dr. Jim Williams) is cooking dinner March meeting for free, email Heidi



A big **thank you** to all the Juniors that came out and served dinner at the Novato Horsemen's Annual Crab Feed. The senior members were very thankful and impressed by your hard work and great behavior. Way to go Alexis Engelen, Brianna Georgeson, Jenna Magner, Michelle Nielsen, Kendal Scheiner, Erika Schmitz, Morgan Schmitz, Heidi Schmitz, and Will Steadman. If I have missed anyone, please let me know. Let's give a big thanks to Lauren Magner for keeping the juniors going out there. These Juniors earned over \$300 in tips for the club and had a fun time too!

Last year, the Junior club gifted \$5000 to the Senior Horsemen's for the arbor and landscaping of the back patio. The Seniors would like to express their thanks by providing dinner for us at the March meeting on 3/8. Dr. Jim Williams will be cooking roast beef, mashed potatoes, and green beans. **All you need to do is to RSVP by March 1st** to Heidi Schmitz (see contact info on page 1). Let her know how many in your family will be dining with us that evening. There was even talk of apple pie and/or ice cream for desert!



Sunshine Committee: If someone you know needs a little extra sunshine in his or her life, contact Erika Schmitz or Kendal Scheiner (see contact info on page 1). These 2 girls would love to send a card to put a smile back on your friend's face. An example of this would be for birthdays, graduations, getting their first horse or maybe a fellow junior member has lost a favorite pet, family member or friend.

March Birthdays!!

3/2 – Madeline Geller
3/4 – Rebecca Hambly
3/4 – Michelle Nielsen
3/19 – Morgan Schmitz
3/26 – Claire Cruse



Membership Committee:

Don't forget to renew your junior membership. The last date to pay is April 1, 2011 (no fooling) or there is a \$5 penalty attached to each membership. If you have any friends that want to join, the membership forms are on the website and at the end of this newsletter. Invite them and their parents to come to a meeting to see what the club is all about.

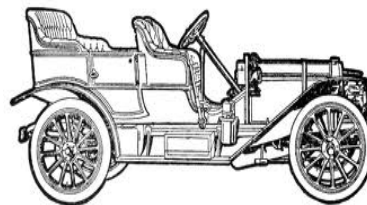
**Welcome to our newest members:
Kyndal Hart and Jacob Hart**

March Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 8, 2011. 6pm dinner by Dr. Jim Williams, meeting to follow at 6:30. We will be having a guest speaker, Alyssa Aubrey to talk to us about The Medicine Horse Ranch that is a learning center for Equine Guided Education. We will also be talking about event ideas for the junior club, meeting new friends, and playing a game or two.

Newsletter:

Any submissions to the newsletter must be e-mailed to Mary Schmitz at erik.mary2@verizon.net no later than the 22nd of each month.

Farm Day is on Thursday, March 24th at the Marin Civic Center from 9-12. Young children from all over the county come to see the animals and club booths. This year's theme is "From Farm to City" so at the last meeting, the Junior club decided to have 2 tables with a display depicting transportation from horse and cart to automobile. They will also have a vaulting as well as a roping demonstration set-up. Gary Sello will have a big covered wagon there for rides and will need some help with talking with the kids while he takes them for a ride. If you are part of the public school system, you can usually check-in as school starts then leave after attendance has been taken. That way, the school still gets it money! Then you can meet us at Marin Civic Center Exhibit Hall as close to 9 am as possible! Be ready to represent your club and wear western/English attire. You will be the spokesmen for this great club!



PLEASE LET US KNOW IF you would like to give a report at the next meeting about a horse-related event, movie, a new horse or breed of horse you may be riding, a special trail you love to go on, a new training technique that has worked for you, or maybe something related to horses in the news? You can do it alone or with a friend. You can do a slideshow, photo album, posters, etc. Sometimes a school report works here as well! We would love to hear about it. The possibilities are endless!! All you have to do is to email Heidi or Michael (contact info on page 1) so they can put you on the meeting agenda. By the way, did any of you Juniors attend the fantastic show called Cavalia? Please consider doing a report on it!



Everyone's Invited!

The next Novato Junior Horsemen's club meeting is coming up on **Tuesday, March 8, 2011 @ 6pm** is a complimentary dinner cooked by Dr. Jim Williams, meeting to follow at 6:30. We will be discussing ideas of possible upcoming junior events, and playing a game or two. We will also be hearing from a guest speaker, Alyssa Aubrey, about Medicine Horse Ranch in Tomales, which is a learning center for Equine Guided Education, retirement home for horses, youth at risk programs and horse sense programs.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

In order for this club to have all of its wonderful activities, dinners, and volunteer times filled up, we need ALL PARENTS (and JUNIORS TOO) to come out and be an active part of this organization. This year's membership application requires 4 HOURS. Those 9 members that worked at the crab feed already completed them but it is very likely that you will see those same members again and again all year helping out. If you only have 1 hour to give at a time for or maybe you can do work at home, that is okay! Volunteer opportunities include: volunteer coordinator, chairing the snack shack and arranging workers, cooking dinner for a meeting, shopping for the snack shack during the summer, working a Saturday or Sunday in the snack shack, chairing an event that the club wants to put on, leading a trail ride, organizing a field trip, working at Farm Day, teaching a short clinic, helping put on a schooling show, announcing a play day, helping at a work party here or at Halleck Creek. It is not expected that adults know what to do! We will help or train you. A little note about the snack shack: this is the biggest moneymaker for the club and a really big job. Pair up with a friend (s) and split the work (you can even sign up for a week or a month at a time. Each week that there is a show, it is open and needs to be stocked and staffed. Many hands make light work. Juniors work it too. Juniors should try to come out and see an event that they have never seen before. They can learn about that discipline and get service hours! Please talk with a Junior Advisor to find out how you and your child can help this great club.



Find the horse breed words from the bottom in the horse word search grid. The words can be forwards or backwards, vertical, horizontal, or diagonal. Circle each letter separately, but keep in mind that letters in each horse breed may be used in more than one word. When the horse word search puzzle is complete, read the remaining letters left to right, top to bottom, to learn an interesting horse fact.

Horse Breeds Word Search Puzzle

D A B Y S S I N I A N C L Y D
 E S R O H R E T R A U Q E S D
 R T A N L E H O R R S E S A R
 B U E I A S O O L A P P A A Y
 E R B M B R O W N B A N D C N
 L I U O W H I T E I L A M E O
 D A C L Y D E S D A L E I T P
 D N K A N R G E B N M A N Z D
 A R S P O C A R T H U S I A N
 S R K E P T L C H E S S A T A
 E D I A S L N S O E T X T T L
 R E N B E L G I A N A M U E T
 H I G H L A N D P O N Y R L E
 Y S T N A I P S A C G R E O H
 N G E L D E R L A N D E R G S

ABYSSINIAN
 APPALOOSA
 ARABIAN
 ASTURIAN
 AZTECA
 BELGIAN
 BUCKSKIN
 CARTHUSIAN
 CASPIAN
 CLYDESDALE

DALES PONY
 GELDERLANDER
 HIGHLAND PONY
 MINIATURE
 MUSTANG
 PALOMINO
 PINTO
 QUARTER HORSE
 SADDLEBRED
 SHETLAND PONY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Member _____ Date _____ Renewal _____

Name of Member _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Emergency Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Age: _____ Birthdate: _____

Mother's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Emergency Phone: _____

Father's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Emergency Phone: _____

Would you prefer to receive your newsletter by e-mail?

Yes No E-mail address to send newsletter to: _____

Members Interests:

- Schooling Shows Trail Rides Cattle Events Gymkhanas Overnight Rides Team Penning
 Color Guard Clinics Drafting Fundraising Parade Cutting
 Playday Field Trips Team Roping Drill Team Other _____

Club Affiliations & Memberships:

- CSHA CGA US Pony Club NBHA 4-H Dressage PRDC High School Rodeo
 AVA Vaulting Hunter Jumper Driving Other _____

My parents would like to fulfill their volunteer obligation by helping with:

- Education Guest Speaker Schooling Show Committee Chairperson Awards Banquet
 Playday Fundraising Pre-Meeting Activity Movie Night Dinner for Junior Meeting
 Fieldtrip Chaperone Luau Trail Rides Snack Shack Newsletter Other _____

Parents: You agree that by allowing your child(ren) to join Novato Junior Horsemen that you will volunteer a minimum of 4 hours in 2011. Parental participation is strongly encouraged. The success of the club and its members is reliant upon your direct involvement. Agreed by:

Signature of Junior Signature of Parent Signature of Parent

Annual Dues (payable to Novato Jr. Horsemen)

Table with 3 columns: Payment timing (On or before April 1st, After April 1st), Dues for first child (\$20, \$25), Dues for additional child (\$15, \$20).

Please bring this completed form to the next meeting or mail to: Novato Junior Horsemen c/o Mary Schmitz 11 San Carlos Way, Novato, CA 94945

Please Note if you are a new member, you must attend a General Meeting within 60 days of the date of your application to be "voted in" by the general membership or you forfeit your membership privileges and dues.

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's") 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.**

Signature -Contracting Party _____ Date _____

Signature -Contracting Party _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____

Printed Name _____

Signature of Parent(s) or Legally Appointed Guardian [If competitor or participant is under 18] _____ Date _____

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 8th Bring a friend!



*Novato Junior Horsemen
c/o: Mary Schmitz
11 San Carlos Way
Novato, CA 94945*



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please consider receiving this
newsletter by email. Thanks
for your support!