

# NOVATO HORSEMEN NEWS



March  
2008

Novato Horsemen, Inc. PO Box 456, Novato, CA 94948  
Web: [novatohorsemen.com](http://novatohorsemen.com)

## Board of Directors

**President:** Gary Sello (415) 309-8618  
[gary@indianvalleycarriage.com](mailto:gary@indianvalleycarriage.com)  
**V. Pres.:** Curt Kruger (415) 897-7308  
[ckruger@cal.berkeley.edu](mailto:ckruger@cal.berkeley.edu)  
**Treasurer:** Jill Peterson (415) 897-2404  
[jilldpeterson@yahoo.com](mailto:jilldpeterson@yahoo.com)  
**Rec. Sec.:** Greg Yates (415) 725-5034  
[mtbik4evr@verizon.net](mailto:mtbik4evr@verizon.net)  
**Corrsp. Sec.:** Beth Roens (415) 613-9955  
[b\\_roens@hotmail.com](mailto:b_roens@hotmail.com)

## Board Members:

Amy Hutchinson (415) 517-3907  
[amy@sonnenbmw.com](mailto:amy@sonnenbmw.com)  
Ken Frank (415) 898-7768  
[KFACPA@yahoo.com](mailto:KFACPA@yahoo.com)  
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Kristina Zbilicki (415) 310-6750  
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Alyssa Aubrey (707) 878-2440  
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Gilda Hagerty (415) 892-1034  
[gdkhag@comcast.net](mailto:gdkhag@comcast.net)

## Committee Chairs

Jr. Advisor: Elizabeth Tapia (415) 259-5826  
Membership: Jana Hafner (415) 897-3955  
Budget: Curt Kruger (415) 897-7308  
Cattle: Steven Schwindt (415) 897-8453  
Fundraising: Amy Hutchinson (415) 517-3907  
Horse Shows: Kristina Zbilicki (415) 310-6750  
Gymkhana: Karen Kilian (415) 897-0794  
Grounds: TBD  
Website: Margaret Slemmer (415) 215-5566  
Sunshine: Nancy Olson (415) 939-5005  
CHSA: Monte Kruger (415) 897-7308  
Bylaws: Greg Yates (415) 725-5034  
Arena: Ken Frank (415) 898-7768  
Calendar: Karen Killian (415) 897-0794

General Meeting  
Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>

Dinner 6:30pm  
➔ Meeting 7:30pm ←  
New Earlier Meeting Time

Dinner

Kristina, Selena, Lydia and Karen will make  
Chicken Fried Chicken with Country Gravy and  
Gourmet Mac 'n Cheese with salad and dessert  
RSVP to Kristina (415) 310-6750 or [kmz@pobox.com](mailto:kmz@pobox.com)

## Monthly Event Calendar

### ★ CLUB EVENTS ★

3/4 NHI General Mtg - 7:30 at Club House  
3/5 NJH General Mtg - 7:30 at Club House  
3/9 Main Arena CLOSED - CGA Gymkhana  
3/10 NHI Open Jumping - 6:00 Club Arena  
See page 2 for details  
3/18 NHI Board Mtg - 7:00 at Club House  
3/19 NJH Board Mtg - 7:30 at Club House  
3/29 Main Arena CLOSED Pony Club -  
Open Tetrathlon Clinic See page 2 for details  
3/30 Main Arena CLOSED - Pony Club  
Tetrathlon  
3/30 NHI Trail Ride - See page 2 for details  
4/1 NHI General Mtg - 7:30 at Club House  
4/2 NJH General Mtg - 7:30 at Club House  
4/6 Main Arena CLOSED - CGA Gymkhana

### ★ OTHER EVENTS ★

3/6-7 PCQHA Weekend - Back to Basics Show  
Rancho Marietta, [www.pcqha.com](http://www.pcqha.com)  
3/15 High School Rodeo Jr's Finals- Lake Port  
3/22-23 WCHA - Snaffle Bit Ranch, Lodi  
[www.westerncowhorse.org](http://www.westerncowhorse.org)  
4/4-12 Grand National Rodeo - S.F. Cow Palace  
[www.grandnationalrodeo.com](http://www.grandnationalrodeo.com)  
4/5 CSHA Color Guard - Cow Palace

## President's Message

From Gary Sello

Our club just hosted an amazing Crab Feed, thanks to the hard work of many senior and junior members. Two senior members stand out as having put every possible ounce of energy into this event, before, during, and after. Collectively we offer our heartfelt thanks to Amy Hutchinson and Jill Peterson for their hours and hours of commitment that insured the success of the event, that and the multitude of "at the door" ticket sales. Financial details of the Crab Feed will be available at the General Meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>. How about all those amazing kids who can hardly bus their dirty dish at home, hustling to make sure everybody had whatever they needed. That's the way we like to see it. ....

Also important for all members who attend the March meeting will be the budget discussion. Kristina Ziblicki, Jill Peterson, Greg Yates, Curt Kruger, and Ken Frank have been working hard as your budget committee and will present the projected income and expenses as it pertains to the operations of our club.

The Board of Directors will present its recommendations for capital improvements, and other expenses. The budget must be approved by the general membership. Since the inception of the budget committee four years ago, our budget process has helped each board analyze and recommend for their present year. Special thanks to Jill Peterson, Curt Kruger, and Greg Yates, all three have been a mainstay in the budget process.

On the Sunday following the Crab Feed, I would estimate thirty plus different members had trailered out to the club, and were using out facilities. At least a third were jr. members, riding with their friends and/or parents, Charlie Raposa was running his "wired cutting" operation, the sun was warm, everyone was getting along, and three kids earned a buck apiece by touching the rear ladder of my people mover from their saddled horse. All three started unable to get their horses near the moving wagon, but by the clubhouse turn, they had each earned their buck. Like I said, a good time was had by all. . .

At the last general meeting, there was discussion regarding the possible purchase of an electric gate with a keypad for access onto the club grounds. The point of the gate is not for lazy people like myself, who would rather not get out of their vehicle, but is to drastically reduce the potential for animals to exit our property unattended and result in serious if not fatal injuries to themselves and any number of pedestrians, bike riders, or families driving by. The expense of doing the gate would be in the \$4,000 to \$5,000 range. Members would have a gate code, they would drive in along the fence on the left, truck and trailer off the street, punch in their pad, the gate would open inward, and shut behind them. A magnetic pad in the ground that knows the difference between a horse and a vehicle would open the gate as you were exiting. The Board of Directors will discuss the gate again at the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. All of us would be interested to hear your thoughts regarding the gate. Please bring big ears, and your thinking cap to the March meeting. Meeting starts at 7:30. Thank You,

## Welcome New Members

Laura LaLonda, Karen Blake, Diva Tolosa, Laura Adams, Joan Rasmussen, Deanne Silva, Jody Kuehn



## Club News



**ELECTRONIC CUTTING** – Charlie Raposa will be working one or two of his horses with an "electric cow" that works up and down the rail with pre programmed moves or through the use of a remote control, most Saturday & Sunday mornings. This activity takes place in the "warm-up arena". All club members are invited to come work their horses on whatever level is appropriate. Charlie will work with you, your horse, and the movement of the "cow". Interested people could show up around 10:00 or call Charlie at 707.338.6611



**OPENING JUMPING** – Starting in March at 6:30pm the second Monday of every month. Free of charge and open to all members. We will all help set up and take down jumps. The focus will be on working towards jumping courses with some cavaletti and gridwork. Riders must be able to control their

horse at all gaits. Open to riders with any level of experience over fences. Always wanted to jump? Come learn and practice in a supportive environment. Western riders are welcome too. The focus will be on jumping safely and correctly, and jump height will be set according to the experience of the riders in attendance. Rain cancels. Please come early if you can to start the set up. See you there!



### MARCH TRAIL RIDE

SKYLINE WILDERNESS PARK, NAPA

Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> – Meet in the horse parking lot at the park. 10:30 AM–in saddle ready to ride. Parking fee: \$4.00 There is an arena for warm up – Easy ride–approximately 2 hours. Bring sack lunch. – Members only. Rain = No Ride.



**OPEN TETRATHLON CLINIC:** The tetrathlon clinic is open to any Horsemen member. We need at least 20 people to make the clinic a go. All ages welcome. We have two awesome trainers, Carmelo Felix, a medalist in the Olympics for Mexico, who is an awesome trainer for shooting, running and

fencing. Shirley Antrobus is an amazing horse trainer from England, British Horse Society instructor and judge for english/western shows. She will also be the judge at our english/western shows for the Juniors. Contact Elizabeth Tapia (415) 259-5826 for registration forms and information.



Hey, do you want to be part of a team that's to help with Club events? Then come by the club grounds anytime between 9:00–2:00PM on March 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> (call if rain). I'll check you out on the Club's ATV and teach you how to set-up the sound and timer systems and how the watering works. Call Karen at 897-0794

March 2008						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**RENEWAL NOTICE TO ALL NHI MEMBERS** – Memberships that were not renewed by the February General Meeting, February 5<sup>th</sup>, will be charged a \$10.00 late fee. Memberships that have not renewed by the March General Meeting, March 4<sup>th</sup>, constitute a lapse of membership and will be charged an

initiation fee to rejoin. To renew: submit an application and the appropriate fees payable to Novato Horsemen to: P.O. Box 456, Novato, CA 94948. Membership applications can be found on the NHI website: Novatohorsemen.com. For further details please refer to the Novato Horsemen bylaws.

## February General Meeting Minutes

From Greg Yates, Recording Secretary

**Date:** February 5, 2008

**Time:** 7:30 PM

**Location:** Clubhouse

Gary Sello called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm and lead the pledge of allegiance. Gary thanked Alyssa Aubrey for the great dinner.

**Board Members Present:** Gary, Greg, Jill, Beth, Ken, Alyssa, Amy, Chris, Gilda and Kristine.

**Absent:** Curt

**March Dinner:** Kristina, Selena, Lydia and Karen

**April Dinner:** Rhonda and Valerie

**New members:** Laura LaHonda, Karen Blake, Diva Tolosa, Laura Adams, Joan Rasmussen, Deanne Silva, Jody Kuehn. Motion made to accept the new members, seconded and approved by a majority of general membership present. New members should see Karen Killian to get their gate key; you will need a \$10 refundable deposit per key.

### *Officers' reports:*

**Treasurer** (Jill Peterson): balance in accounts: \$13,187. We will receive the new fire screen by the Feb crab feed.

**Buildings and Grounds** (Gary): We need a chairperson who has building and project management experience to come forward and work with the board, membership and his/her committee volunteers(Steve, Sylvie and Chief).

**Cattle** (Steve Schwindt): no report

**Budget:** We will meet Feb 12 to discuss the 2008 budget plan.

**Website:** The club needs your current email address for our mailing list. If you have any changes please send an email to Jana (JHefner@marincounty.net)

**Corresponding Secretary** (Beth): if you have anything for the newsletter, turn it in by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Gary thanked Beth for her efforts in redesigning the newsletter; it looks great. March begins the paperless newsletter for those who chose to receive it by email. If you don't receive it by email, contact Jana and verify your email address. Members should consider a business card advertisement in the newsletter, only \$5.00/per month. We also would like members to write informative articles for the newsletter, please submit them to Beth before the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Junior's report:** The roster for 2008 already has 102 members. There will be a feature presentation Feb 6 @ 7:30 pm by a 12 year old keynote speaker (very talented).

**Membership** (Jana Hefner): We have received many new applications. Please remember to sign the application **and** waiver of liability.

**Sunshine** (Nancy Olsen): none

**CSHA** (Monte): Trail trials is the fastest and largest growing discipline in CSHA. Contact Monte or go to the CSHA website for details.

**Crab Feed** (Amy): The Crab feed is Saturday Feb 16<sup>th</sup>, we will have two sittings: one at 5 pm for \$30 and the second at 7 pm for \$35. Tickets are available and we need to sell, sell, sell....

**Trail Ride** (Gilda): On Feb.16, there will be a trail ride on Mt. Burdell; be ready to ride at 10:30am.

### *Old Business:*

**Arena Committee** (Ken): Ken presented the general membership with a list of items needing maintenance: warm-up arena and round pen need sand, feasibility of automatic main gate, main arena grooming and a consistent arena rental fee structure for 2008. The committee recommends: \$300 for arena rental, \$50 non refundable deposit (to be credited toward arena rental), \$25 for morning and afternoon drag, \$25 for PA system or announcer's booth usage. After much discussion and debate, Ron made the motion to accept the Arena Committee's fee structure as is, seconded and approved by a majority of the general membership present.

### *New Business:*

Road base needs to be purchased to cover the parking area and drive way for \$660. Motion made, seconded and approved by the majority of general members present.

The board will meet with the Budget Committee and present the 2008 budget at the March General Meeting for discussion and approval.

### *Open Microphone:*

Please fill the wood box as you make a fire.

With no further business, Tom made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded and approved by the general membership. The meeting was adjourned at 8: 50 p.m.

## February Board Of Directors Meeting Minutes

From Gary Sello, Acting Recording Secretary

**Date:** March 18, 2008

**Time:** 7:30PM

**Location:** Clubhouse

**Call to Order:** Gary called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**Board Members Present:** Curt Kruger, Alyssa Aubrey, Beth Roens, Amy Hutchinson, Ken Frank, Gilda Haggerty, Chris Mathonis, Kristina Ziblicki, Jill Peterson, and Gary Sello

**Excused:** Grey Yates

**Guests:** Stan Mossi, Karen Killian and Elizabeth Tapia.

It was announced that the Fire Screen had arrived and was in place, and that Kristina had arranged for the removal of the piano to a good home.

**Guest:** Stan Mossi discussed an article that was published in the S.F. Chronicle on February 16 regarding a lawsuit against a stable doing guided rides that won an appeal with a judge deciding that the vendor's release of liability agreement did not prevent a lawsuit from going forward. Beth will circulate our release form at her law firm, and Gary will talk to our insurance agent regarding our form which they have approved before.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Beth reported on the high cost (\$ 500.00) of the previous newsletter which had been approved by the board. Nearly 40% was made up by advertising, and some cost was our club supporting CGA and the Marin Horse Council with their flyers and secondary forms. Beth will print out newsletter labels and bring them to Mailcom along with her data for the newsletter. The club will save \$ 75.00 a month, \$900.00 a year. Mailcom's prices to us are 20% lower than both other bids we have received. The club could save additional money if someone came forward (or a group of people), who would want to fold, label, stamp, and close with a sticker, already collated and stapled newsletters. There was discussion about combining the Junior and Senior newsletters and the board will continue the discussion in March.

**Treasurer:** Jill gave the treasurer's report; The club has \$12,340 approximately including the \$ 2,151.00 check which was written for the Crab. This figure does not include any money from the Crab Feed.

**Fundraising:** Amy reported the Crab Feed had 45 to 50 people show up without pre purchased tickets, and we came up a little short on food, but way long on spirit. People shared space and food, and we learned a lesson about the popularity of this wonderful event. The Crab Feed netted the club \$4,554.72 including the Bar and was considered a great success. One couple was refunded their money when they found nowhere to sit, and four other people who left under the same circumstance were approved by the board for refunds as well.

**Trail Rides:** Eleven riders participated in the trail ride organized by Gilda on February 16<sup>th</sup> in the Open Space. Gilda's next planned ride will be in Napa, and is open to all members only.

**Juniors:** The junior's General Meeting in February was a very well attended meeting by Juniors, Parents, and a scattering of Senior members. Sean Daley gave an enthusiastic speech about CSHA and the Royalty program. Sean said he had never been to a club with so many Junior members, and how impressed he was with that.

**Budget Committee:** The Budget Committee had previously emailed out to the Board, a list of Capital improvements that each Board member had prioritized in order of importance. A final tally was taken of the Board Members and a list was compiled of projects to be completed this year which will be discussed at the March meeting. These expenses fall within the range of projected income and regular program and maintenance expenses. The Board has already completed a) \$ 8,000 for the tractor, b) \$700 grading of the parking area and the driveway. The Board also approved c) \$ 750 for sprinklers around the Warm-Up Arena, d) \$ 500 for lights in the Clubhouse parking lot, e) \$ 3,000 for improved footing and drainage in the Round Pen and Warm Up Arena, f) \$5,500 for rebuilding the stairs of the announcer's booth, re-siding the announcers booth including covering up the cinder block with a painted metal siding, and fixing the roof, and g) \$800 for the shade structure over the bleachers. The Board chose to continue discussion of an electric gate with member codes to the March Board meeting. The board reviewed a bid for repairs to our house trailer of \$2260, and approved a motion made by Chris, seconded by Ken to have the work done.

**New Business:** Karen presented the Board with her end of the year report, which board members took home to read and discuss in March. Karen will solicit members to train on the ATV, our PA system, and the timer.

Board members were encouraged to attend a Junior Meeting, and Amy will attend in March.

The board approved a motion made by Amy, seconded by Beth, to start Board meetings at 7:00 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.



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

<i>To Be Completed By NHI Board Member</i>	
Ck# _____	\$ _____
Date Voted In _____	
Date Card Mailed _____	

**★ SENIOR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – 2008 ★**

Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City St. Zip

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Profession \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

**★ ANNUAL DUES ★**

Individual Membership	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50.00	Couples Membership	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$75.00
Initiation Fee	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$30.00	Couples Initiation Fee	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$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  
 Would you prefer to receive your newsletter by email?  Yes  No    Email \_\_\_\_\_

**★ VOLUNTEER EVENTS ★**

*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*

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

**★ MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT ★**

As a member, I hereby agree to abide by the Rules and By-Laws of Novato Horsemen, Inc.

✓ 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'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.**

## A Big Thank You To Crab Feed Volunteers

From Amy Hutchison

First, let me begin by apologizing to anyone who attended the late seating of the crab feed and didn't get enough to eat. We were expecting 150 people for both seating's and actually served over 200!! We weren't anticipating all the walk-ins. I am sincerely sorry about the shortage of crab and seats. We are discussing how we can prevent this from happening again next year. If you have any suggestions, please contact me.

Second, thank you to all the volunteers who helped with this event. The set-up crew: Michael Santy, Nancy Olson, Steven Schwindt, Marianne Skinner and Gary Sello; Jackie Walker and Karen Kilian who are awesome at the door checking in and selling tickets; Bartenders: Marty Lemos, Bryan Bottini, Bill Nickoli, Ricky Georgeson and Nancy Olson who kept the drinks cold and aplenty.

Kitchen help: Miki Grandin, Marianne Skinner, Jill Peterson, Susie Nielson; Junior Parents: Sue Hambly and Kristen Kern for taking charge of the juniors; The clean-up crew: Alyssa Aubrey, Gilda and Dennis Hagerty, Kristina Zbilicki,, Charlie Cammella, Jill Peterson, Jenni Greggor, Karen Kilian and Katherine O'Neill. It was a mess on Sunday, but that's a sign of a good party isn't it?? Thanks to Elizabeth Tapia for organizing the Juniors. A very special thank you to all the juniors who worked their tails off shuttling food back and forth between the kitchen and the very hungry guests. It was a big crowd and you all did a fabulous job. We received so many compliments on the kids.

Thank you to all the members who helped sell tickets, especially Dr. Jim Williams who always gets the prize for selling the most tickets. Thanks Jimmy.

There were so many volunteers helping with this event and I hope I haven't forgotten anyone. If so, I'm sorry.

## What is Cowboy Mounted Shooting

Gleaned from CMSA Web site

What is Mounted Shooting? Mounted Shooting is like barrel racing with balloons in between the barrels. The rider shoots black powder blank cartridges from .45 caliber pistols, at balloons, and is scored on accuracy and time.

It is required that you dress western. You may either dress in traditional western style or you can dress in the old time style of the late 1800's.

Mounted Shooters use .45 caliber single action revolvers like those used in the late 1800's. Single action revolvers must be cocked each time before firing by drawing the hammer back.

The cartridges fired are called .45 caliber Long Colts. The brass cartridge is loaded with black powder (like that used in the 1800's). This load will break a balloon up to about 15 feet. Live rounds are strictly prohibited at competitions.

You can use any horse or mule that you want. It is up to your horse's temperament and your desire to train him or her to get used to shooting, turning, and going fast. Some riders will use earplugs for themselves and their horses. Safety in horse training and firearm handling are emphasized at all times. Many clubs sponsor clinics for new shooters



in starting their horses and learning the basics of safe firearm handling.

There are 50+ possible patterns. A competition may consist of 3 to 6 patterns a day. Each pattern consists of 10 balloons. To give you an idea of riding a pattern, let's say that there are 5 white balloons and 5 red balloons. The 5 white balloons may be grouped together in one place or spread out over the entire arena. The rider shoots all 5 white balloons first. Then, the rider holsters the first gun while riding to the far end of the

arena, draws the second gun, and shoots the 5 red balloons, which are usually 5 in a row straight towards the finish line. This is called 'the Rundown'.

There is a Men's, Women's and Senior's Division, with Classes 1-6 in each of those divisions. There is also a Wrangler Class for those 11 and under. All riders start at Class 1. There is also a prize for the best score overall where age or gender does not matter.

The riders are scored on time and accuracy. Speed is important, however, accuracy is usually more important than speed. A typical pattern can be run in 15-35 seconds, so penalties can really hurt.

Competition Cards in CMSA costs \$60 per year for an individual or \$90 per year for a family. You can join online. Call or e-mail the CMSA office (480) 683-0485 or visit [www.cowboymountedshooting.com](http://www.cowboymountedshooting.com)

**Classified Ads**

**Horse Facility For Rent** – McClay Road, Nov. 2 flat acres, 10 stall barn w/ paddocks, hay & tack rooms + add'l paddocks. Small arena. No House. Renter must carry own insurance. \$1,500+utilities/month. Call Anna Young for more info. (415) 897-1918

**Sunshine**– Someone in need of a little sunshine in their life. Contact Nancy Olsen (415) 939-5005.

**Newsletter** – If you have something for the newsletter please email it to Beth Roens at b\_roens@hotmail.com or call (415) 613-9955. All submissions must be received by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month



**Reminders**



**Get Ready for Cattle** – Spring is on its way . . . think cattle

**General Information** – Dogs must be leashed or safely located in a vehicle while on club grounds. Also, it is the responsibility of each on-site event chair to have a cell-phone for emergencies.

**Close the Gate**– It is an NHI Standing Rule that all members need to close the gates. If you see a gate open, close it. The Board and membership are looking into automatic options, but for now we must all be vigilant.

**Club Gear** – Show your support by wearing NHI logo'd products on your hat, t-shirt or sweatshirt. Let the community know you are a member of this great club. Contact Kristina Zibilick for availability and pricing.

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# Horse Sense for Women™

... an experiential learning experience, creating positive change for personal growth and development through Equine Guided Education.

No riding experience necessary.

## About Equine Guided Education:

An Equine Guided Educator and the horses provide a safe, fun and challenging atmosphere. Participation in equine activities on the ground encourage students to deal with real life situations.

## Upcoming Group Classes and Schedule: Horse Sense for Women™ for women of all ages in transition

Join us for a group that helps women discover their strengths (and quirks) by connecting with horses, other women and the natural world. Identify and explore the barriers in your way, and develop new practices for taking action and getting unstuck! Together we'll also address the power of saying "no" (and how to make it stick!), moving into action with integrity, and enhancing intuitive knowing for decision-making skills.

## Class Details and Registration:

This is a 4- hour workshop, at a cost of \$150.00 per person. 2008 class dates offered; 2/29, 4/18, 5/30, 8/29, 9/26 and 10/17. Limited to 8 women.

## Individual Adult EGE sessions:

Personal growth and learning in a one-on-one setting.

Sessions are 50- 70 minutes long at \$120 per session, and are facilitated by an Equine Guided Educator and one or more horses. Clients identify and address personal goals through equine-guided activities with the horses and the EGE coach.

Individual sessions are held by appointment on weekdays, evenings or weekends.

## Private Group Programs:

Can be developed for your current work team, friends and/ or colleagues. These programs can be created to address specific topics.

To schedule a program and more information, please contact: **Medicine Horse Ranch at (707) 878-2440.**



## Public Tours of Medicine Horse Ranch

Reservations required: 707.878.2440

Tour Times: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm ~ Cost: \$25.00 Donation

The public is invited to tour the ranch, meet the horses and staff. Come learn about our programs, including a demonstration of Equine Guided Education. Please contact us to let us know you plan to attend!

Your donation of \$25.00 is our ongoing fund raising effort to help care for our program horses. Therefore, we cannot make refunds if you are unable to honor your reservation. Thank you for your understanding.

## Upcoming 2008 Tour Dates:

March 9, April 26, June 21, July 27,  
August 30, September 27 and November 8th.

**Directions:** We are located on Thornton Ranch, a 1000 acre, fifth generation family owned and operated working cattle and sheep ranch in Tomales, California. The land is surrounded by the famed beauty of Coastal Northern California. The unspoiled beauty of this part of the country is accented by abundant wildlife including coyotes, bobcats, deer, hawks, owls and eagles.

From 101: Exit Washington St. and continue towards Petaluma. Go through Petaluma on Washington St. approx 8 miles or so. Washington becomes Bodega Ave. Continue on Bodega Ave. Turn LEFT on Tomales Rd. (green road sign on the right reads Coast Guard Training Center/Tomales). Follow Tomales Rd. (about 4 miles) to Cerini Rd and turn LEFT.

(There is a white sign marked Thornton Dairy at the entrance to our driveway). Stay on Cerini Rd a little over two miles. You'll cross over two cattle guards and see the horses/barn up on the hill to the right.



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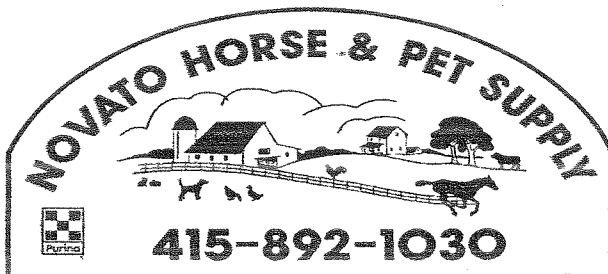
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