

2022 NHI Board of Directors

President Aldo (AJ) Gigliotti [‡] Vice President Shawn Mulholland [‡] Treasurer Kimberly Fishman Corresponding Secretary Sarah Bulgatz [‡] Recording Secretary Joan Murphy [‡] Board Members at Large: Marty McCowen [‡] Stephen Schwindt [‡] Amy Hutchinson [‡] Mark Carpenter [‡] Casey Rodd [‡] Vince McCarthy Caretaker and Keeper-of-the Rental Calendar Karen Kilian Contact us: novatohorsemen@gmail.com

2022 NHI Junior Advisors

Carolyn Conner [‡] Rosella Arnold [‡] Rebecca Cowlin [‡] Toni Shroyer [‡] Henry Choi (Snack Shack Coordinator)

January Calendar & Events

January 2022 NHI Meeting Dates



General Meeting – Canceled for Jan. due to Covid. Junior Board Meeting – Tuesday, Jan. 11, 5:30 p.m. Senior Board Meeting – Tuesday, Jan. 18, 7:00 p.m. Check the calendar on our <u>website</u> for other important dates.



Anyone have familiarity with the program Survey Monkey? We could really use your help! If you're willing to help us set up a brief survey on behalf of the NHI membership, we would very much appreciate the assistance.

Let us know if you have some skills with this program: novatohorsemen@gmail.com

At right: Nelly & Dolly were recent visitors at NHI, getting ready to participate in the annual Dickens Fair with longtime member and muleskinner, BK Cooper. We'll miss seeing you two pretty gals! Photo courtesy of Marty McCowen.



Novato Horsemen, Inc. Newsletter – January 2022 President's Message, January 2022

Dear Members:

I hope all our members have had a wonderful holiday season. This past year has been challenging with a variety of restrictions and changes throughout the year.

There are a few members I would like to acknowledge for their dedication and commitment to Novato Horsemen in addition to those recognized at the Installation Dinner. These are Jana Hefner, Lauren Magner, Amy Hutchinson and Susan Atamanuik. I ask the membership to join me in thanking these members for all that they have done for NHI.

I am very pleased that our leadership team for 2022 is now complete as Stephen Schwindt and Amy Hutchinson agreed to



serve on the Board. We are honored that both have agreed to serve again. We are still looking for members to volunteer on various committees and roles in the coming year. We are also looking for someone to assist with our communications and marketing, and work closely with Sarah Bulgatz, so if you are interested, please contact Sarah or myself. We are additionally looking for a few bartenders to help out during our general meetings. Serving as a bartender at NHI is an excellent way to get to meet other members. Please let me know if you are interested.

It was nice to see the California Gymkhana Association (CGA) return to Novato Horsemen with an event in November and another one in December. Both events were well attended, and the feedback has been outstanding. They are interested in more events for 2022. Thanks to Scott Colvin and Karen Kilian for making the arena and grounds look so good.

During three consecutive weekends in December, Amy Hutchinson organized and held a food drive for Marin Humane Pet Assistance and the Food Bank. I wish to thank Amy and all the members that supported this effort for such a worthy cause.

One of our long-time members, Lauren Magner, is dealing with a serious family illness as her baby grandchild, Kaden, is being treated for a rare cancer. Members and friends are encouraged to donate to assist with the expensive care and assistance. Unlike Go-Fund-Me, contributions to Kaden's battle are 100% tax deductible, and the Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) does not take a fee. This link takes you to the COTA website, where you can learn more and make a donation (any and every size donation helps): <u>https://cota.org/campaigns/COTAforKadensBattle</u>.

We are hoping to return to more normal activities in 2022, and we will be sending out a survey to obtain feedback from our members in the coming months. Please take the time to respond. Also, at the next general meeting the membership will be asked to support an increase in the individual initiation fee to \$50, and to \$100 for couples, when they join.

Our annual crab feed is currently planned for February 12, 2022. Due to the current Covid environment, this event will be drive-through only. If you're interested in getting a great, ready-to-eat dinner and supporting our club, please contact Amy Hutchinson or Scott Colvin or Dr. Jim Williams for tickets before we sell out. More information is available on page 5 of this newsletter.

We understand members' schedules and commitments may change, but I'd like to remind everyone to be considerate. If you register to attend an event like a dinner and it turns out that you will be unable to attend, please notify us.

May we get some more rain and snow, and may the New Year bring, joy, happiness, good health, and prosperity to all our members and their families.

Happy trails!! Stay safe. **AJ**



Want to host a clinic or schedule an event/program at NHI? If you'd like to reserve any 2022 dates, contact Karen Kilian. She will let you know the procedures for approval: 415-897-0794 or 1EeyoreNut@gmail.com.



Activities at and Around NHI

December 2021 Food Drive

Thanks to everyone who participated in NHI's second annual food drive during the three consecutive weekends (five days of donation drop-offs) beginning Dec. 4, either by donating food and/or volunteering to help out. We collected 486 lbs. for the food bank, far less than the 1,100 lbs. collected in 2020, but it will still help a lot of people who need a little extra help this year. Special thanks to the volunteers who came out to sit and collect food, (Cont. p. 4)







Activities at and Around NHI

December 2021 Food Drive (Cont.)

to Stephen Schwindt, who manned the drive himself, and to Karen Beckmann and Karen Kilian who were out there every weekend with Amy Hutchinson. The food drive couldn't have happened without the volunteers. An even bigger thank-you to Amy herself who organized the food drive, mustered the team of volunteers and sorted and delivered the donations benefiting the Marin Food Bank and the Marin Humane Pet Care Assistance Program.

NHI Juniors 2021 Awards

The Juniors held their annual awards and board installation celebration on Dec. 4. Highlights include the following awards: Nicole Shroyer was awarded the William Bamgrover award for most valuable member for her participation and willingness to help; and Reese Knowlton was awarded the Diamond award for most inspirational horse and rider partnership with her two minis, Cowboy and Ace.







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NHI Crab Feed 2022

We are pleased to announce that we will be offering our annual Crab Feed this year despite Covid!

These are challenging times, and while indoor group dining events may not be the best idea right now, we know how popular our annual crab feed is. So, our solution will be to hold our crab feed this year, <u>but it will be drive-thru only</u>. Each ticket you purchase will entitle you to pick up a delicious, ready-to-eat meal consisting of:

3 lbs. of fresh Dungeness Crab – cooked, cracked and cleaned

- 🐨 Pasta & sauce
- Salad & bread
- Dessert

And, in addition to getting a great packaged dinner, you'll be helping support our club!

- When: Saturday, February 12
- Where: Novato Horsemen, 600 Bugeia Lane, Novato

Pick-upThere will be assigned pick-up times when you can driveTime:through and pick up your packaged dinner.



Tickets: \$65 per dinner. NHI members in good standing will get a \$5 discount per ticket if they purchase tickets by Jan. 15!

Note that all tickets must be purchased by Jan. 31 if you wish to participate.

For tickets or more information, contact Amy Hutchinson: (415) 517-3907; <u>heydere@sbcglobal.net</u>



Membership Update

New Member Applicants

Sharon & Bob Finston

"Hello. We are Sharon and Bob Finston. We have been married for over 26 years. I (Sharon) grew up with horses, and Bob joined me in my love for horses when we got married. We are Endurance riders. When our horses are in excellent shape, we ride competitively. When the horses are not in top form (or getting older), we ride to finish. The motto of the American Endurance Ride Conference is: "To Finish Is to Win." And that is our motto with each and every endurance ride that we do.



We live in San Rafael and keep our horses at Los Ranchitos. We have had many

wonderful years of riding here in San Rafael, Novato, Point Reyes and all over Marin.We have done many endurance rides from 25 milers (you have 6 hours to complete a 25) to 100 milers (where you have 24 hours to complete). We have done multi-day 50 milers where you ride 50 miles per day for consecutive days. We consider our horses athletes and love them dearly."



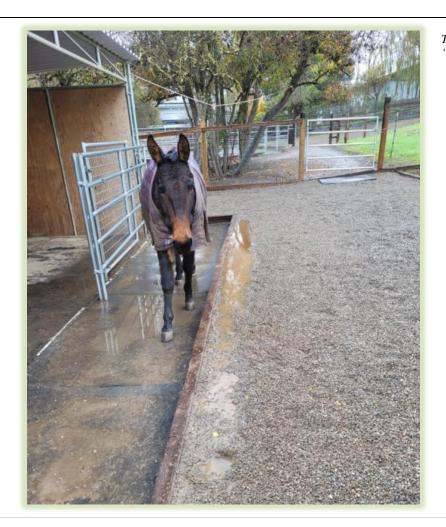
L to R: Tally, Patty and Bella heading out for a ride from Los Ranchitos. Below: Bella, Tally, and Mojave Blaze at the finish of.Lake Sonoma Endurance Ride (Oct. 2021).



Don't Forget to Renew your Membership for 2022!

You may already have received a renewal form via snail mail, but if not – or if you've misplaced it – just use the form on the following pages. Don't forget to renew! There are so many benefits to being an NHI member:

- Use of an expansive facility where you can practice your skills (and your horse's skills) in a large, regularly groomed arena and in a smaller warm-up arena or round pen.
- Easy access to the beautiful trails of Rush Creek open space.
- Guided club rides in beautiful Marin County locations with an experienced trail boss.
- Cow program the only program in the Bay Area that offers weekly ranch cutting and team penning during the late spring through the early fall.
- Clinics, play dates, gymkhanas and shows fun for riders of all ages and disciplines.
- Social events with other like-minded equestrians. Some of these include community benefit drives, the Haunted House, annual Crab Feed, dinners, etc.
- Discounted pricing on club rentals and advertising.



Tyrone enjoying the wet weather in his domain, the "Taj Mule Hall"

P.O.	ATO HOR SEMEN, INC. BOX 456, NOVATO, CA 94948 IBERSHIP APPLICATION – 2022	To Be Completed By NHI
Name of Member New Member(s) (Spouse Renewal(s)Lifetime Member(s) Mailing Address:	
Street	City Spouse	State Zip
Phone:	Phone:	
Email:	Email:	
	Annual Dues	
Individual Membership	Couples	Initiation/Late Fee 🗖 \$60.00
		-
	(requin Interest (check all that apply!)	ea tor new members)
	sts 🗆 Cattle Events 🗆 Dressage 🗆 Gym	kana 🗆 Jumping 🗆 Clinics
Other		
Miscellaneous: Work Parties Bart Other	ending Cooking BBQ Computer T MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT	ech 🗆 Contractor Skills
As a member, I hereby agree to ablide by the Rules and By General Membership Meeting within 60 days of submitting the dues and initiation fee are retained by Novato Horseme	this application to complete the requirements for memb	
✓ Member Signature		
WAIVER & I (We) have read the contract on the back (or (are) aware that the contract is legally binding a claim for negligence.		
Signature -Contracting party	Signature - Contracting party Date	Date
Printed Name	Printed Name	
⊁	cut here	
Must attend a general mer	mbership meeting within 60 days to	Check #Cash
complete the requirements for membership		Amount Received \$
Received by		Today's Date

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._____

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 NHL Horses, mules and ponies are unpredictable by nature. For example, when frightened, angry, or under stress, the natural institucts 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 coour 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).

<u>2.</u> 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 ful 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 actions 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.

1. 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 (imited 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[igs]] 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.

<u>4. PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR</u>. For my protection, NHI advises me (us) to consider purchasing and wearing property fitted and secured ASTMstandard/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.

<u>6</u> 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

Age:

Contact Info Needed

Please help! In November, we sent applications to all members as a reminder to renew their membership. If your name appears in the list below, we have received returned mail due to an incorrect mailing address. Please send an email to <u>novatohorsemen@gmail.com</u> and <u>hefnerj@outlook.com</u> with your name and correct snail mail <u>and</u> email addresses so we can update our records.

- 🐨 Dawn Bedell
- Sorcha Dolan
- 🐨 Nicki Esdorn
- Lauren Jacobs
- Joy Lanzaro
- Heather Parker

Thank you!

Classified Ads

Remember, classified ad submissions are due by the 21st of each month in order to be published in the next newsletter. NHI members get five free ads each year! If you have an ad you'd like to have published in the February newsletter, just send it to <u>NovatoHorsemen@Gmail.com</u> by Feb. 21. Advertising guidelines are on our <u>website</u>.



