



## LOS ALTOS HILLS HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION 2021 Newsletter / Annual Membership Renewal

8 January 2021

### President's Message

The year 2020 was our COVID Pandemic Year that we'll always remember – our lives seemed to stand still with schools and businesses closed, events cancelled, and travel restricted. I managed to keep myself grounded by staying close to my family and – of course – spending lots of time with my horse! There are some 100 members of LAHHA, all with a unique approach to equestrian activity and a neat story to tell – I hope you appreciate this year's scrapbook!

In the past year LAHHA has sponsored or participated in a number of activities that support our mission – to promote and cultivate the use, ownership, and care of horses in Los Altos Hills and neighboring communities. Our organized equestrian activities in 2020 were limited to group trail rides due to the COVID Pandemic. Our Activity Schedule for the coming year is on hold pending a lifting of the state and county social distancing directives and some sense of "return to normal" as the COVID vaccine is distributed and begins to take hold.

This past year, your LAHHA Board continued to provide an active voice in preserving and promoting an equestrian "vibe" in our community. Our board members regularly attend meetings to engage with the Mid-Peninsula Open Space District, Town Council & Committees, and we network with other equestrian organizations throughout the local region – all for the purpose of advocating for trails, preserving and expanding our open space, challenging zoning changes that threaten to impinge on riding, horse safety, and boarding areas, and maintaining our public Town Riding Arena. This past year LAHHA organized the repair of the wash rack and the gates at the Town Arena and we frequently worked with town maintenance crews to correct pathway deficiencies (downed trees, obstructions, debris). SPECIAL THANKS to our Town Public Works Dept. for their excellent support to the Arena and pathways!

In the following pages of this newsletter you will find "horse highlights" from many of our members looking back at the past year. I hope that you enjoy reading about your fellow equestrians as much as I did in assembling these stories!

Lastly, the final page of this newsletter is your annual membership renewal. I hope that you will stay engaged in LAHHA. Your annual dues will help support our insurance costs for our events, mailing and printing expenses, incidental expenses associated with our events, and selected capital costs during the year to maintain the Town Arena and associated equipment.

### LAHHA 2021 Calendar

9 Feb	Town Arena Broom Polo or Trail Ride
1 Mar	LAHHA / Los Viajeros Alpine Inn Ride
3 May	Town Arena Day
7 Jun	Pony Rides at Town Arena
19 Jul	BBQ at Town Arena (Pot Luck)
16 Aug	LAHHA Back To School Party
X Sept	Horse Camping
10 Oct	Woodside Day of the Horse
13 Dec	LAHHA Holiday Party/Festive Ride

**On-Hold For COVID**

### LAHHA 2021 Board

#### President

Jerry Wittenauer (TEL 650-269-9639)  
wittenauer.jerry@gmail.com

#### Vice President / Events

Alisa Bredo

#### Communications

Teresa Baker

#### Treasurer

Carol Gottlieb

#### Secretary

Linda Swan



## 2020 LAHHA Member Highlights!



So proud of our Los Altos Hills' own Lauren Burnell – just named as the Second Ranked Amateur Adult Rider in the United States, in her Olympic Sport of "Three-Day Eventing"! Lauren began her riding career at Fremont Hills (briefly), and then with the Pony Club at Westwind Barn. She regularly competes nationally in Three Day Eventing, and is the owner/operator and a trainer at Arnell Sporthorses in Paso Robles.

Shown here are photos of Lauren in action and her proud mom Joelle keeping track of the awards! For more on Lauren's outstanding accomplishments, check out <http://arnellsportshorses.com/>





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Linda McKell reports "I have appreciated LAHHA and all of the fun interactions with other horse owners and their critters! Made many friends and had some wonderful trail rides together!"

This is a picture of my moving my 34 year old horse "Duke" to Indian Hills Ranch in Milpitas earlier this year! He had been in Los Altos Hills for the last 14 years at my parent's home. But as they had passed on, it was time for Duke to go to more of a "care facility" too! He is doing well over there and I see him regularly and take him for walks.



At the horse barn of Carrie Shaked - Zinnia and Velvet sharing snuggles. Way to go – it takes real trust for a horse to let you sit down next to him like that!



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Judy Kash riding her 9 yr-old Quarter Horse "Ziggy". Here is Judy and granddaughter "Omie" – a 2025 pony club potential - She needs to reach the stirrups first!



Denise Del Carlo had a month of excitement in August – hosting these three beauties that had to be evacuated from a fire zone!



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No lack of excitement at Jerry Wittenauer's barn on Canario Way! We hosted three Arabians from a fire evacuation zone in August (above – enjoying the misters on a hot day), and "Carlos" went through a year of rehab for a torn suspensory (right – out for a jog). Jerry & Carlos are ending 2020 back to 100% and looking forward to more Endurance Riding in 2021!



Tara Swan showing off her gorgeous Arabian – "Lotus Elan". He is now 20 months old and has grown almost as large as his mother. He has begun his training and is doing well. He was not shown in 2020 as all shows were canceled. Hopefully he can get out in the coming year!



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A treasured memory for Gemela Katz riding "Trinity" at Westwind Barn in March 2020. Gemela sponsored Trinity for a number of years for the Westwind Barn 4H Club. Trinity has moved from Westwind now and Gemela is in search of a new ride!



The best view ever--from the top of a horse! Happy Holidays all and hoping for an improved 2021.

Diane Garcia and "Revie"



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Kathy Liccardo and "Enapay" enjoying the barn life together! Shown here is Enapay standing on his circus drum, putting on his best clown face, and checking out a new Christmas toy!



Linda Swan – back in the saddle after over 1 year off! Riding "Amerige".



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Debbie Hotter putting her steady Quarter Horse to work in 2020! These are from a 2-day clinic at Reis Ranch, just south of Petaluma. The ranch is 600 gorgeous acres, we did some trail riding and cattle pushing. Super fun! It was early June, virus cases very low there at the time, they had just opened up indoor dining!



Kim Stoddard & Friend enjoying peaceful rides in Marin County – Samuel P. Taylor Park. Kim offers to show us around on a ride if we trailer up that way – a tempting offer!





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From Mary Hufty: I would like to celebrate Taylor and Rita Whitney who have adopted a wonderful COVID and Fire rescue horse, Bonnie, at my home. She is miraculous and blooming at 23 years old. Taylor and Rita are learning to ride and we are all feeling that love of our animals and our natural world is pulling us through this strange period of social distancing and fear.

Picture shown is of Bonnie, Rita and Taylor learning to talk the horse language.



Left to Right: Its Gina Rayfield, Barb Eckstrum, and Mary Hufty in Arastradero Preserve!



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Future Los Altos Hills Rider - Lily on Grandma Carole's Horse "Tequila".



Alisa Bredo making sure that her horses stay fit! Above is "Bravey" working on his jumping at the Town Arena. Also shown is "Kazelle" getting out for a ride to Westwind Barn and "Fi" helping Alisa to survey the condition of paths for the Pathways Committee.





## ***Los Altos Hills Horsemen's Association – A Peek into the Past 1976-1984***

Many thanks to LAHHA's Carole Gottlieb for giving us this peek into the past with a summary of our LAHHA Newsletters from 1976-1984. After re-reading some of the Fast Tracks dating back to 1976, one can see that the Horsemen's Association continues to fulfill its mission by keeping a strong line of communication open to the horse community as well as the Community at large.

At the end of 1976, Jitze Couperus had just taken over the reins of the Association from Pete McSweeney who was one of the founding members of the Association. The topic of concern was the saving of Westwind Barn. The club's focus centered on Clinics, Horseplay, Tack Swaps, a sprinkler system for the ring and clearing a new path along the Lands of Newman from Elena to Black Mountain.

In 1977, the topics ranged from the organization of the Westwind Barn by the Friends of Westwind, an outstanding 40th "Horseplay" at Hidden Villa, and the honoring of Frank and Josephine Duveneck, Artemas Ginzton, and Bob Stutz for their roles on behalf of the Horsemen's Association. More Trail clearing was performed along the Lands of Newman.

In 1978, the second annual Tack Swap was held, and worming clinics were held at the Town Ring. Costs were \$12.50 for worming - \$10.00 for Tetanus, - \$10.00 for Sleeping Sickness and \$7.50 for flu. Also, a "Candidates Night" was held in February. One of the questions asked was "What is your commitment towards maintaining the existing trails as well as towards expanding the trail system?" Sounds familiar!! Candidates were Bob Cheney, Larry Giller, Tom McReynolds, and James Nystrom.

No Newsletters from 1980 were available; however, in a letter from Nancy Couperus, President, Friends of Westwind Barn, she discusses the broader use of Westwind Barn and the fact that there is a watering trough, tie rack, and picnic area available to transient horseman who wish to stop by the barn.

In 1981, Rich Swan took over the presidency of the Horsemen's Association. Proof of the Horsemen's Association existence was sealed in the Time Canister buried under the Flagpole at Town Hall. Linda Tellington-Jones held a clinic at Westwind Barn with part of the proceeds going to the Westwind 4-H Riding for the Handicapped Program.

Regina Davis took over the reins of the Horsemen's Association in 1982. The Town and Pathway Committee were congratulated for the passage of the Town Master Path Plan in March. The Horsemen were given 30 redwood posts by the Town to mark more paths with the official trail insignia, a footprint within a horseshoe.

In 1983, the club continued to sponsor clinics, the first with Debbie Sereni at Town Hall and second with Walter Wright at the home of Doni and Sid Hubbard. The 46th Annual "Horseplay" was held at Hidden Villa.

In 1984, Bob Stutz took over the reins of the Horsemen's Association. The Club held another Candidates Night, and a restoration of the Town Ring. The biggest issue was a bid of over \$6,000.00 for fixing the ring's drainage system. A local civil engineer offered to oversee the construction and sign off on it when complete without charging his usual fee. Many thanks to the engineer!

Once again . . . thanks to Carole Gottlieb for this "peek into the past"!



## **Membership Renewal / Survey**

Please consider renewing your membership in LAHHA for 2021! Along with your membership renewal, we would like to hear from you on how LAHHA can better serve the needs of our equestrian community. Good luck with your 2021 riding plans- and HAVE FUN!

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### **2021 LAHHA Membership Application / Renewal**

**2021 Dues: Youth \$15 / Individual \$20 / Family \$30**

Please fill out below and send with 2021 dues (check payable to "LAHHA") to:

LAHHA c/o Carol Gottlieb  
24290 Summerhill Avenue  
Los Altos Hills CA 94024

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**e-mail\*** \_\_\_\_\_

*\*NOTE: We are working hard this year to reduce our printing & mailing expenses by transitioning to e-mail for our event notifications, social invitations via Evite, and using our LAHHA Facebook Page and LAHHA website. Please help us out by furnishing a valid e-mail address!*

### **Member Survey**

- I would like to get more involved with LAHHA planning and events, please contact me!*
- I'd like to get more involved with supporting local equestrian interests / pathways issues.*

*LAHHA Events that I'd like to participate in in the coming year:*

- Group Trail Rides*
- Horse Camping*
- Clinics (Please Specify)* \_\_\_\_\_
- Barn Tour (1-day Roving "Open House" Format)*
- LAHHA Social Events*    *More?*    *Fewer?*   *What Type?* \_\_\_\_\_
- Annual Schooling Show*
- Horse "Play Day" at Town Arena*
- Other Activity – Please Specify* \_\_\_\_\_

*Other Comments / Suggestions:* \_\_\_\_\_