

Tri-Cities Horseman's Association

March 2004 Newsletter

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President's Message

The hair is in the air! Spring must be right around the corner! I don't know about your horse but I cannot touch mine without getting a hand full of hair. And, boy, is he full of himself!! It sure is tempting to just get on and let him run! But... we need to remember that, just like the rest of us, our four footed friends have not been as active over the winter and need to be brought back into shape gradually.

This means trail rides or arena work with a lot of warm up time to get those muscles limber before asking for more and starting slowly and progressing to tougher work a little at a time. There is nothing worse than watching your friends ride from the sidelines while your horse is recuperating from a pulled tendon or muscle.

This is also the time of year to take your saddle and tack home and give it a good cleaning and check for wear and tear. Replace any worn cinches, latigos, or straps, and be sure the stirrup bolts are tight. Taking a little extra time now will catch things before they become a problem and pose a danger.

See you on the Spring Ride!
Marie

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 7th at the Lefty Gomez Rec Hall in Rodeo. The Junior meeting is at 7:00 and the General meeting starts at 7:30. See ya there!

Directions: From Highway 80 or Highway 4 take the Willow Ave./Rodeo exit. Turn west on Willow Ave. and follow into town where it becomes Parker Ave. The rec hall is on the left in the parking lot at the ball fields. Address is 470 Parker Ave.

New Member

Please welcome our new Junior member Samantha Connors from Pinole.

Ice Cream Social Fun!

We all had a blast at the annual Valentine's Day Ice Cream Social! Who knew that charades could be so entertaining? It was priceless to see Tim West and Jay Fowler try to act out "The African Queen." There was plenty of ice cream and plenty of laughs!

Junior's Info

Tri-Cities baseball caps are still for sale at \$13 each. They will be available at any Tri-Cities event. We are still selling club shirts and sweatshirts. Contact Janelle Humphrey for information.

We are planning our July 24 Junior Playday, and are working on getting a sponsor to provide prizes.

Sweetheart & Horsemen

If you are under 18 years of age and want to represent your club, sign up for the Junior Representative Program. Positions available include:

Sweetheart – girls 11- 17

Horseman – boys 11 –17

Jr. Sweetheart – girls under 10*

Jr. Horseman – boys under 10*

*Must be able to control their horse without assistance.

If you have not yet signed up for the Sweetheart and Horseman competition for 2004, be sure to get your applications in as soon as possible. They must be received by the April meeting.

The riding test will be either May 1st or May 2nd depending on when the arena may be available (still checking on this). The speeches and oral testing will be done at the May 5th meeting.

Several people have volunteered to be judges, but more are needed for the speech and oral test portion. Judges may not be related to the contestants. If you can help, please contact Janelle Humphrey on 510-779-1678 as soon as possible.

New Pasture Manager & Updates

Sue Martin (Batz) is taking over as Pasture Manager and is assuming responsibility for collection of boarding fees and interacting with the boarders and EBMUD. We want to thank Susan Martin for all her work the past couple years in getting the pasture back on track and boarders current or on a payment schedule.

There are currently 11 horses in the pasture. Sue checked on all of them on 3/7/04 and they are all in good condition. We have 4 spots open in our 126 acre pasture. The cost is \$35 a month, with a \$10 late fee if not received by the 5th of each month. The pasture is near a lot of trails on Bear Creek road. For more information contact Sue Martin (Batz), 510-669-9768, suedbatz@hotmail.com, 4260 Santa Rita Road, El Sobrante, CA 94803

Rowell Ranch Parade

The Rowell Ranch Parade is on Saturday, May 8th. At the meeting many members showed interest in participating. If you are interested in riding or being part of the color guard, contact Jay Fowler on 510-669-9260 or via e-mail at proton2390@aol.com.

NOTE: Being part of the color guard will require attending practice session(s) prior to the parade! All Junior riders must be attended by parent or responsible adult either as a walker or rider to provide assistance if necessary.

Pt. Reyes Weekend Ride

The Pt. Reyes Weekend Ride is Memorial weekend, May 28th -31st. We will be camping at Stewart Horse Camp in Olema, which is adjacent to Pt. Reyes with direct access from the camp to the Pt. Reyes National Park trails. Even if you are not a rider, you will enjoy the weekend just hanging out. There is always someone in camp to visit with visit the nearby museum, Miwok village, earthquake trail or beach.

Camping fee is \$15.00 per night per horse or per person if not a rider. Non-riding children under 8 years are free. To reserve a space you must pay at least one-night in advance, which is non-refundable, by April 15th. You will pay the remainder of your nights directly to the camp manager when you arrive.

In addition to riding on the beautiful trails, we will have nightly campfires and games and a potluck is planned for Saturday night. This is a really FUN weekend! More information and reservations forms are available on the web site. Or you may contact Deanna Alexander on 510-581-4988.

Web Site Updates

A new High Point section has been added to the web site. It includes the club's high point rules, registration form and qualification chart. The chart will be used to keep riders informed of what they need to qualify for awards and will be updated throughout the year.

Region 5 Meeting: - Trailer Safety & Towing Livestock

With the weather warming up and the show season starting soon we will all be trailering our horses more and we need to be concerned about safety issues. CSHA Region 5 is having a special speaker at the March 24th Region 5 Meeting. Officer Jerry McDowell from the California Highway Patrol will speak on the topic of "Trailer Safety and Current Laws Pertaining to Towing Livestock"

To be sure all your concerns are answered, please provide questions in advance by 3/19. E-mail your questions to rshover@pacbell.net or celtic41@yahoo.com.

Region 5 meetings are open to all, come early for dinner if you wish! The meeting is on Wednesday, March 24th at 7:00 p.m. at Denny's Restaurant in Danville. Take the Sycamore Valley Rd. Exit off highway 680 and go east to the first intersection. Turn right and Denny's is on the corner. Meetings are in the back room.

Region 5 Riders Meeting

ATTENTION GYMKHANA RIDERS The Region 5 Gymkhana Rider's meeting will be March 13th at the El Sobrante Library from 10:00 to 1:00. We will be making very important decisions at the meeting and your vote counts. Be sure to attend!

Sunshine Corner

You May be a Cowboy/Cowgirl IF:

- ~ Your horse trailer cost more than your house trailer!
- ~ Your bath tub is a stock tank!
- ~ Your horse brush is also your hair brush!
- ~ You smell more like a horse than your horse does!
- ~ You do all your gift shopping at the feed and tack store!
- ~ Your favorite fragrance is leather!
- ~ You refer to your spurs as the "family silver!"
- ~ Your idea of fun is being tied to a two thousand pound raging bronco!

Questions? comments? Address changes? Contact the editor: Angela (510) 799-6461 or [Catwhisperer6@aol.com](mailto:Ccatwhisperer6@aol.com)

Tri-Cities 2004

High Point Corner

March 8, 2004

High Point Chairmen

Sue Martin (Batz) 510-669-9768 &

Lori Walker 510-222-4029

Denise Martin 510-223-4624

So far we have a total of 5 high point horse and rider combinations. I am sure we will have several more sign-up at the next meeting, because all of the sign-up forms were gone after the March meeting. We have a total of \$308.00 in the High Point fund thus far.

We have a lot of raffle items turn in so far. I will list them next month. You can turn in your money, sponsorship, and raffle items as soon as you wish. Don't forget you must sign up before the first show, which is May 9, 2004. Remember, the 50/50 raffle proceeds go to High Point.

Our year-end party is booked for December 11, 2004 at the Richmond Rod and Gun Club for \$300, all day, bar closes at 10:00pm. There is a pool table, pinball machines, and full kitchen access. Riders are required to help clean up after the party.

Contact either Chairman to get your sponsorship forms, turn in sign-up forms or raffle items.

Remember the more raffle tickets you buy and the more sponsors you obtain, benefit the High Point program. This means better awards at the end of the year for us to enjoy.

Sue