

MORAGA HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

September 2017

Calendar of Events

September 19 – MHA at Jackie Frost's 7pm social time, 7:30 meeting
1722 Wood St, Alameda

October 17 – MHA at Laura Stetson's

November 21 –MHA at Gayle's



The new girl in town, Nahlee Fend is checking out her new peeps☺

MHA Meeting Minutes 8/15/17

Members Attending: Linda Benson, Lynda Deschambault, Gary Fend, Laura Fend, Ute Frey, Jacquelyn Frost, Rob Harrison, Gayle Jackson, Heather O'Donnell, Kristin Ojala (by cell phone), Shivani Rajan, Linda Sanders, Jenni Smith, Laura Stetson.

Guest: Liz Strauss

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Jenni Smith. The minutes for the July meeting were approved without revision.

President's Report: Jenni Smith reported that EBMUD sent MHA the form to renew our lease for another 5 yrs, and she will respond as necessary to renew it. The MHA Insurance Policy was received, any questions about insurance should be directed toward Gayle. The club received an email from Allison Martin, a member of Orinda Horsemen's Association

(OHA), asking if we would like to receive a donation of a cart that can be pulled by ATV. Laura Fend said we once had a similar cart, but ended up giving it away since the club does not have an ATV to pull it. There was a general discussion and a decision to decline the offer of the donation, since the club would be unlikely to be able to use it.

Vice President Kristin Ojala was absent from the meeting, but was phoned by Jenni Smith so that she could listen and participate. Laura Fend introduced a guest, Liz Strauss. Liz was previously a member of MHA, and is interested in rejoining. Liz has a 34 year old Quarter Horse named Frank and an 18-year-old Anglo-Arab named Riva. Liz lives in Oakland, is currently a member of OHA, and may be interested in keeping Riva in the MHA pasture, where she has previously lived. It was generally agreed upon that since Liz was previously a member, she can rejoin by paying dues without the need for a vote. Members welcomed Liz to the meeting, and back to the club.



Brenda/ Hash, Jenni/ Tosca and Laura / Frosty cruising past Lake Tahoe after the Tahoe Rim Ride

Treasurer's Report: There has been no activity in the general account since the last meeting, with the balance remaining at \$14458.78. There

is \$27,680.16 in the pasture account, after some fly control expenses.

Pasture Report: Laura Fend reported that she is still looking for someone to do star-thistle removal with a weed eater. Weed eaters for this purpose must be heavy duty, and must have plastic blades. There was a discussion about how best to handle the removal of star-thistle, teasel and invasive coyote brush from the pasture. Options discussed included: The club could pay to repair the Fend's weed eater. An alternative would be to buy or borrow a weed eater, or to hire people (possibly the guys who will be digging post holes for us) to do the labor and require these workers to rent or provide the equipment. Gayle proposed buying a weed eater. Buying a weed eater may pose a possible liability issue, and safety equipment would also be necessary. Shivani offered to perform the labor along with Daniel and her brother. Ute suggested that the club buy a weed eater and gas can goggles. After more discussion about cost and details, Shivani made a motion that the club should buy a weed eater, gas can and goggles at an estimated total cost of \$400 or less, and Ute seconded the motion. The plan is for Shivani, her brother and Daniel to use these materials to fulfill pasture work hours, and also for compensation at the rate of \$20 per hour. The members voted, and unanimously approved this motion.

Jenni has found two college guys to dig holes for fence posts for the new pasture fencing. She is still trying to schedule this work--it may be done on Labor Day. She said that she may organize a work day for pasture members on Labor Day as well.

There will be a work day next Sunday (Aug 20) at 8am with some local boy scouts. Another group of boy scouts helped MHA out once

previously. There will be 7-10 workers (scouts and parents). The scouts can do this as part of their Community Service because MHA is a non-profit. Thank you to Heather for facilitating this. Jenni asked the scouts to bring heavier duty equipment this time (hoes, etc) and they will work on removing coyote brush in Homestead and Stoneridge. Laura Fend would like them to also try to remove an old post in the area where the gate between Homestead and English used to be. Laura Stetson suggested that we could ask EBMUD to take out the post. However, EBMUD is not being very responsive to MHA concerns right now with lots of other issues to deal with.

Old business: Laura Fend reported that the unsafe gate at McCosker Park in Canyon has been taken care of. It is safe for horses now.

New business: None. The bridge closure has shut down club activities to a large extent. Sprint is finishing up their underground work in preparation for building a temporary one lane bridge with traffic control, which is scheduled to be functional by early November. The neighbors are still being very nice when horses come through their neighborhood to bypass the closed bridge.

Laura Fend reported that Kerry from EBMUD said they cannot bring equipment to fix the surface of the road leading to the pasture until the bridge is fixed. Laura responded to EBMUD that our vehicles are being damaged by being driven on the road to and from the pasture, but she has received no response from Kerry. Jenni offered to follow up by sending an email to EBMUD maintenance person Mark Silva.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting from Shivani, seconded by Gary. The motion

was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Minutes submitted by Linda Sanders



PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

EQUINE-GUIDED WORKSHOPS FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH EARLY STAGE DEMENTIA and THEIR CARE PARTNERS

Xenophon Therapeutic Riding Center
60 Don Gabriel Way
Orinda CA 94563

**This program is
FREE of charge**

Participants Needed for Equine Guided Workshops and Pilot Study

What: Four 2-1/2 hour workshops with horses for people living with early stage dementia and their care partners. No prior experience with horses is necessary to participate. Participants will not be riding horses; they will be engaging with the horses from the ground.

Who: We are looking for people who have a diagnosis of early stage dementia or MCI to participate with their primary care partners (e.g. Family member or friend). All participants must be ambulatory with stable medical health.

Why: Our studies at Stanford and UC Davis have shown that working with horses decreases stress and improves communication for persons living with dementia and their care partners. Plus, being with together with horses is engaging and fun.

Time Involved: 13 hours including initial telephone calls, 4 workshop days and follow-up program evaluation call

What is Connected Horse?

Connected Horse Co-Founders Nancy Schier-Anzelmo and Paula Hertel have spent their careers working in Gerontology and Eldercare and being around horses. It was their inspiration that horses could help persons with dementia and their caregivers that led the study at Stanford and UC Davis

Xenophon has a long history of excellence in equine-guided service delivery.

If interested in participating, please contact:

510-484-3079

Connected Horse Coordinator

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