

Moraga Horsemen's Association

March 2018

Calendar of Events

April 17 – MHA at Laura Stetson's 2217 Parker St, Berkeley 7pm social time, 7:30 meeting

May 12 – MHA Breakfast Ride

May 15 – MHA at Ute's

June 19 – MHA at the arena

July 17 – MHA at the arena

August 21 – MHA at the arena



Lanni sporting her fly mask in a unique way ☺

MHA Breakfast Ride

Our annual Breakfast Ride will be at the Pelican Inn ☺ Our reservations are for noon, which means we need to leave Tennessee Valley staging area by 10:30....which means riders should be leaving Moraga by 8ish. Members who don't intend to ride can join us there at 12.

More details to come, but in the meantime, contact Kristin at krojala@gmail.com to make your reservations.

MHA Minutes 3.20.18

Members present: Brenda Benkley, Corinne Dutra Roberts, Gary Fend, Laura Fend, Ute Frey, Jackie Frost, Gayle Jackson, Kristin Ojala, Shivani Rajan Hetschel, Rachel Rezos, Linda Sanders, Jenni Smith, Laura Stetson.
Guests: Jessica Cleese, Cyndi Lukk

At 7:40pm, President Jenni Smith called the meeting to order, and thanked the Fends for hosting the meeting. She asked if there were any proposed changes to the January minutes. No changes were proposed and Kristin motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Shivani. Minutes were approved by membership unanimously without discussion.

President's Report: Jenni had nothing new to report.

Vice President's Report: Kristin reported that the dues report is not finalized. Since Ute's login for the club bank account has not been completed, Ute is reviewing dues received manually. Membership is less this year than last, but not all interest has been logged with appropriate follow up yet. Jenni asked the question if we need to do a membership drive – Kristin responded that it is too early to know. Once she has a full membership report to give, more discussion may be appropriate.

From her spreadsheet, Ute reported that 19 members have paid, and 3 members are still due.

Kristin has a list of folks due for follow up, and will compare notes with Ute.

Kristin welcomed guests Cyndi and daughter Jessica to the meeting. Cyndi is an equine therapist who keeps horses in Danville. Both she and Jessica are long-time equestrians. They are action members of Zenerosity. They expressed interest in MHA membership.



Lunch breaks are so much better in spring!

Treasurer's Report: Ute reported we have \$13,107.78 in the MHA general account and \$26,052.12 in the pasture account.

The Installation Dinner was attended by 17 people and \$736 was received for dinner and wine. The final bill from the restaurant was slightly less.

Ute has paid the insurance bill due, and Gary submitted pasture bills to Ute to be paid.

Pasture Report: Laura Fend reported the pasture is getting nice and green. We are down to 12 horses, and at this time aren't sure we want to add more horses until we have more grass, due to how badly the grass had been before the most recent rain storms.

Laura had a conversation with a representative from Redwood Rangers (Castro Valley) about filling a space in their pasture. They asked for how we structure our requirements for our co-op pasture, and explained they are having similar issues with filling spaces in the pasture due to lack of interest in co-op situations. Kristin added that there are many issues at play – horses are expensive, co-op situations require work and commitment, and those that can afford horses are less likely to want to spend that time and effort. Continuing to spread by word of mouth seems the best course of action; potentially to the endurance riding community, similar horse clubs, etc. The next work day to have the local boys' club to volunteer is 4/15/18.

Gary brought up potential grants are available from Bay Area Barns & Trails. Jenni will find out more about what could be available to MHA. Laura Fend offered to membership two of the three orange water containers to the membership – no takers, but there are some suggestions for donation. We may have use for them during our summer event.



Nori Livermore overlooking the valley from Carr Ranch Loop

Old Business:

During the Installation Dinner, those present had an option to fill out a brief 3 question survey about MHA's mission and members' involvement. Jackie Frost gave summary of the survey results:

- 10 surveys were received
- Mission: most respondents felt MHA's mission was to be a social group for horse owners and enthusiasts, followed by a role to promote equestrianism in the community and provide education to the public at large.
- How we accomplish that: the majority of responses felt events and community outreach were the "how." There was a smaller number of responses that named pasture boarding and trail management as additional means.
- Individual Participation: Despite the large number of responses supporting events and community outreach, interest/capability of individual participation in planning and executing such endeavors were smaller.

New Business:

Jenni suggested our event this year be in another month besides October due to rain, such as somewhere in the summer. The name "Dog & Pony" had been suggested in earlier meetings, with the idea to serve hot dogs and maybe get local dog groups involved.

To get this event off the ground, we will need need folks to plan, and many volunteers to accomplish the day-of execution. Rachel suggested that a Zenerosity representative can be

present and involved. More suggestions included: 4-H, vaulters, other ideas for demonstrations, letting kids lead horses, Girl Scouts. After some discussion, the date of July 1, 2018 from 10am to 2pm was proposed. Volunteers for the planning committee were noted by Jenni. They will meet separately.

For an additional event, Laura suggested a Breakfast Ride. After some discussion, the date of May 12 was proposed, with the destination being Pelican Inn, Point Reyes. Kristin called the Pelican Inn and made a reservation for 12pm. Laura Fend motioned to accept Cyndi and Jessica as new members. Jenni seconded, and motioned passed unanimously.

Next meeting April 17, 2018, at Laura Stetson's house.

Kristin motioned to adjourn, Shivani seconded. Jenni adjourned the meeting at 8:51pm.



Ute and Supes showing off their awards©

Supes is the Bomb!

Jenni Smith's horse, Supes....aka French Fry, has been on fire this year. In February he tied for 1st at the Twenty Mule Team

100 mile ride and received the coveted Best Condition Award. Just 2 weekends ago he was ridden by Ute at the Cuyama 30 mile ride and once again received Best Condition! Congratulations to Supes, Jenni and Ute!

Also showing at the Cuyama ride was Jenni's "baby", Claudio. Jenni successfully rode him in his first 30 mile ride!

Apparently this boy loves the job he was bred for☺

Not to be forgotten, Jenni's mare, and Claudio's mom, Tosca, also rode the 30 and a 50 at Cuyama!



Claudio liked the endurance buffet!