

Moraga Horsemen's Association October 2016



Calendar of Events

October 16 – Pumpkins and Ponies in the Pasture

October 18 – MHA at Laura Stetson's
7 – social time, 7:30 meeting
2217 Parker St., Berkeley

November 15 – MHA at Karen and Rob's



Shivani, Jerry and Claire during lunch break

Meeting Minutes 9-21-16

Members Attending: Laura Stetson, Corinne Dutra-Roberts, Betty Halliday, Jenni Smith, Linda Benson, Laura Fend, Gary Fend, Ashley Tobin, Jim Waters, Kristen Ojala, Linda Sanders, Penny Sinder, Karen Bottiani, Rob Harrison

President's Report: Corinne and other MHA members attended Dee Rosario's open house event. He is running for a seat on the East Bay Regional Parks District board of directors. Dee is a retired Park Supervisor

and park firefighter who loves the EB parks and knows them well. He currently works for the parks district as a volunteer. He vows to push for more transparency in meetings and to hold them at times more people can attend. He is endorsed by the Sierra Club and labor unions and is a strong advocate for equestrians.

Treasurer's Report: As of August 31st, the general account had \$13,692.51 and the pasture account had \$24,380.41.

Membership: A guest, Shayna Zucker was in attendance. Shayna lives in Moraga. She has a 10 year old gelding that she keeps at a family property in Pinole. She has two children, 5 and 7 years old that are getting into riding. She found the MHA website through Google.

Pasture Report: The pasture is in pretty dismal shape. The grass is very dry. A load of gravel has been brought in to cover exposed pipes. Karen and Shivani plan to empty the manure bin as it needs to be done before the rainy season. A community garden will take it.



Jenni and Claudio working on one rein stop

Old Business: In spite of a last minute change of date, the Jerry Tindel clinic had 8 riders. It was a very educational three days for the participants and auditors. The club took in about \$300 for the food served, but we may have an insurance bill to pay for the event. It was suggested that we might start charging an arena fee to participants at events such as this to cover insurance costs.



Marianne and Zane working at the clinic

Planning continues for Ponies & Pumpkins. An email was sent out for volunteers to sign up. A large turn out is expected and we will need all the help we can get.

The city of Moraga says that generally organizations hire professionals to handle traffic control for events such as this. We are waiting on advice from a traffic engineer and the Moraga police department. Questions were raised about our liability regarding parking. Representatives from EBMUD will be with us for the event. We will be taking cash only for food, pumpkins and face painting and payments will be taken at each station. Visitors will be asked to sign liability releases prior to entry.

Lisa and Kerry of EBMUD may lead a nature hike at the Ponies and Pumpkins event. East Bay Regional Parks may send people as well. "Book Lady" is committed. We will have vaulters, ropers and a carriage

driving demo. The P&P planning committee will meet once more the week before the event.

New Business: Ashley rode two days in the East Bay fundraiser trail ride. She expressed thanks to her support crew and appreciation of the new trails she saw. The hiking groups participating in this event are very well organized but horseback riders are on their own. The maps provided were inaccurate and there is no backup for people who get lost. She said the food and entertainment in the evenings is great.



Claire is Jerry's demo horse for resisting pressure

There was a suggestion to paint MHA on the side of the barn and perhaps have some information about who we are. It would let people know what goes on there and also perhaps discourage hikers from wandering through.

Hearings continue on the subject of allowing bikes on certain EBMUD trails. Gary Fitz of EBMUD and TWHA have been working on creating a safe trail user agreement that

people can sign. The goal is not to exclude bikes but to stress safety for all who use the trails. The majority of attendees at these meetings have been anti bike and EBMUD is not moving forward at this time but it's probably inevitable that certain trails will eventually be opened to bikes.



Shivani and Clancy made some great progress



Colleen and Ruby had quite a work-out!
They both showed perseverance!



Frosty thought that flag was gonna bite him!

Jerry Tindell Clinic

We had a great three days working with Jerry....though the weather could have been a touch cooler!

We had 8 riders who enjoyed Jerry's lessons and sense of humor. And 8 horses who wondered what the heck just happened? ☺

Many thanks to Karen and Penny for helping out with the food, Kristin and Jenni for tidying up the arena and dragging it, and all the participants for being such good sports and bringing such yummy treats for our potluck meal.

It was a lot of fun and we all walked away with a few more "tricks" in our bags!

It was especially fun for all of us to watch Claudio become a real horse. Starting with a clean slate; he was able to show the most progress throughout the weekend!☺

Many thanks to Gary Jenkins for his fantastic photographs!