

altalomaridingclub.com

# Straight from the Horse's Mouth

#### Find us on **f** September 2016



Sep 10 - Luis Torres Clinic Heritage Park 10a - 3p

Sep 13 - Board of Directors Mtg 7pm Heritage Park

Next General Membership Mtg October 15, 2016 4pm

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### President's Message

By Joe Cowan ALRC President

The ALRC Membership Meeting has been held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month. In an ongoing effort to improve the club's role with its membership and the community, the club took a survey of our membership and the overwhelming response was to have quarterly meetings on a day more accessible to members. The survey also indicated what activities the members preferred. Those activities will be incorporated into the quarterly general membership meetings.

The ALRC Board at its last meeting approved a by-



Joe Cowan, ALRC President

law change. The change was in Article VI, "General Membership Meetings." The regular ALRC general membership meetings shall be held quarterly (July, October, January, April) on such a day as specified by the Board of Directors, which shall take into account the desires of the membership. The time and place shall be arranged by the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. The regular general membership meeting will be firmly set at least thirty days in advance, and all members shall be given written notice thereof at least 10 days in advance.

The next general membership meeting is set for October 15, 2016 at 4:00pm at Heritage Park Equestrian Center. All dates for the quarterly membership meetings will be posted in the Bits O' News newsletter on the front page sidebar. The meetings will be fun because they will be incorporated into club activities and events. All members and non-members are welcome to attend! Your participation is important because you have fresh ideas we would like to try, even if it is contrary to ALRC tradition. The ALRC is a great place to meet your neighbors, make new friends and feel connected to a community that loves horses and our equine heritage.



Y'all come on down to the corral, ok?

## ALERT Activated For Blue Cut Fire Evacuation

ALRC

By Alice Waters Co-Editor

The recent Blue Cut Fire destroyed many homes, structures and tens of thousands of acres in the Cajon Pass. As always in these destructive wild fires, animal life was placed in extreme peril. In an effort to evacuate large animals, the ALRC was contacted through the ALERT system and asked to help move horses from imminent threat of fire to the safety of Norco corrals awaiting their arrival, far from the threat of fire and smoke.

A heartfelt *thank you* to our ALRC members who thought nothing of volunteering their time and equipment so that as many animals as possible could be evacuated to safety.

It is truly heartwarming to know there are people out there who are ready, willing and able to evacuate animals in peril.

If you would like to volunteer for the ALERT program, please contact Larry Henderson at lhenderson25@charter.net or (909) 909-226-3956



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## How Does Wildfire Smoke Affect Horses?

The following article was written by Dr. John Madigan and Dr. David Wilson, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis and appeared in Vetmed at http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/ceh/local\_resources/pdfs/currenthealth\_wildfiresmoke.pdf

The severe fires in southern California exposed humans and animals to unhealthy air containing wildfire smoke and particulates. These particulates can build up in the respiratory system, causing a number of health problems including burning eyes, runny noses and illnesses such as bronchitis. They can also aggravate heart and lung diseases such as congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, emphysema and asthma.

Because little information is available to horse owners and even equine veterinarians on the effects on horses of breathing air laden with particulates, some suggestions are offered here to serve as a general guide.

#### What's In Smoke?



Smoke is made up of carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, soot, hydrocarbons and other organic substances including nitrogen oxides and trace minerals. The composition of smoke depends on what is burned; different types of wood, vegetation, plastics, house materials, and other combustibles all produce different compounds when burned. Carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that is produced in the greatest quantity during the smoldering stages of the fire, can be fatal in high doses. In general, particulate matter is the major pollutant of concern in wildfire smoke. Particulate is a general term used for a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air. Particulates from smoke tend to be very small (less than one micron in diameter), which allows them to reach the deepest airways within the lung. Consequently, particulates in smoke are more of a health concern than the coarser particles that typically make up road dust.

#### How Smoke Affects Horses

The effects of smoke on horses are similar to effects on humans: irritation of the eyes and respiratory tract, aggravation of conditions like heaves (recurrent airway obstruction), and reduced lung function. High concentrations of particulates can cause persistent cough, increased nasal discharge, wheezing and increased physical effort in breathing. Particulates can also alter the immune system and reduce the ability of the lungs to remove foreign materials, such as pollen and bacteria, to which horses are normally exposed.

#### **Protecting Horses from Air Pollution**

• Limit exercise when smoke is visible. Don't have your horse do activities that increase the airflow in and out of the lungs. This can trigger bronchoconstriction (narrowing of the small airways in the lungs).

• Provide plenty of fresh water close to where your horse eats. Horses drink most of their water within 2 hours of eating hay, so having water close to the feeder increases water consumption. Water keeps the airways moist and facilitates clearance of inhaled particulate matter. This means the windpipe (trachea), large airways (bronchi), and small airways (bronchioles) can move the particulate material breathed in with the smoke. Dry airways make particulate matter stay in the lung and air passages.

• Limit dust exposure by feeding dust-free hay or soak hay before feeding. This reduces the particles in the dust such as mold, fungi, pollens and bacteria that may have difficulty being cleared from the lungs.

• If your horse is coughing or having difficulty breathing, have your horse examined by a veterinarian. A veterinarian can help determine the difference between a reactive airway from smoke and dust versus a bacterial infection and bronchitis or pneumonia. If your horse has a history of having heaves or recurrent airway problems, there is a greater risk of secondary problems such as bacterial pneumonia.

• Give your horse ample time to recover from smoke-induced airway insult. Airway damage resulting from wildfire smoke takes 4 to 6 weeks to heal. Therefore, plan on giving your horse 4 to 6 weeks off from the time when the air quality returns to normal. Attempting exercise may aggravate the condition, delay the healing process, and compromise your horse's performance for many weeks or months.

• If your horse has primary or secondary problems with smoke-induced respiratory injury, you should contact your veterinarian. He/She can prescribe specific treatments such as intravenous fluids, bronchodilator drugs, nebulization, or other measures to facilitate hydration of the airway passages. Your veterinarian may also recommend blood tests or other tests to determine whether a secondary bacterial infection has arisen and is contributing to the current respiratory problem.



The Hot August Nights event held on August 13<sup>th</sup> at Heritage Equestrian Center was a huge success! The event started off with three members of the Rancho Cucamonga Equestrian Patrol carrying in the Colors on horseback to the tune of God Bless America. The Patrol included Karen Hollis, Suzi Lanini, and Charlene Ariza.

Three separate clinics were given in which 17 horses and riders participated in learning and applying expert equestrian advice. Both rings were used for the educational clinics. The large south ring was divided into two parts. The west side of the arena was devoted to Trail Horsemanship, given by Christina Willard. She gave group instructions to 8 riders as well as individual help and guidance. The riders maneuvered a trail course complete with caveletties, bridges and other obstacles. To school the horses even further, Christina rode some of the horses herself. In the other half of the ring, Ned Murphy instructed several equestrians and their horses on ground work. In the north arena a jumping course was set up for instruction on jumping your horse with Karen Petracek as clinician.

Participants had very positive comments on the clinics and hoped that this would continue in the future. An added delight was that many spectators came to observe and learn as well. A gift basket from CW FEED was auctioned off containing many 'horse goodies'. The ALRC Youth division sold horse cookies and carrots. Also, ALRC shirts, hats and sweatshirts were available for purchase. The evening ended with barbecued hot dogs, hamburgers, and Bratwurst, chips, drinks, delicious potato and pasta salads and apples for everyone. Larry Henderson, from the Patrol, had information for prospective members.

A good time was had by all! As one Board member said, "Remember, it's all about fun and education." Thanks to all who made the evening such a success!

## Evening Of The Horse Was A Hot Event!

By Alice Waters Co-Editor

Rising Stars put on a spectacular show that drew an impressive crowd of participants and spectators. The community came out in large numbers and enjoyed dinner, a raffle of gift baskets, entertainment by the Silver Fox Follies and, of course, the horse show. From minis to mules and trail riders to Dressage, horse and rider demonstrated various equine disciplines. The rising stars in this event were senior riders, young riders and those who overcame serious injury through equestrian therapy services provided by Rising Stars. For more than two decades Rising Stars has offered equestrian therapy services to the disabled and able-bodied community. For more information on Rising Stars, visit **risingstarsequestriantherapy.com** 



## Sign Up For Our September Horsemanship Clinic!



Fees: ALRC Members: \$105.00 (includes \$5.00 grounds fee) Non-Members: \$120.00 (includes \$5.00 grounds fee and 1 year membership in the Alta Loma Riding Club) HORSEMANSHIP CLINIC WITH LUIS TORRES

> Date: September 10, 2016 Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm (lunch included)

Heritage Park Equestrian Center 5546 Beryl Street, Alta Loma, CA 91701





A great opportunity for both the beginner and advanced horseman to expand communication skills with their horse. Basic horsemanship will be covered with individual instruction for each participant according to their own needs. Luis welcomes, in advance, ideas from each participant on what they would like to focus on, especially any specific problems they are having with their horse.



To register, contact Julie Bessert @ 909-240-9730

Sponsored by the

Alta Loma Riding Club

## More Clinics Coming In November!

By Barry Berg Trailer Out Director

Hello my fellow equestrians! Some of you know me personally and some of you may have crossed paths with me on the trail. My name is Barry Berg and I want to share with you something we all have in common: the love of horses. It is my pleasure to share with you a little background on my equestrian education and experience. I have completed four horsemanship weeks in Texas with Chris Cox and, on another occasion, I helped teach Horsemanship 1 with Chris Cox. (My son participated that week and he had no apprentice.) What an honor to be asked to help teach and I took it as a sign of my ability to lead people and horses. I completed three weeks in Idaho with Martin Black on horsemanship and cattle work. Also, I stud-

ied four years under Val Gilbert Horsemanship where the patience and psychological sides of horsemanship have paid off immensely. Currently, I am studying with Bruce Sandifer in the Californio style spade bit horse, aka Bridle Horse. I currently have two horses in "the bridle".

I live and breathe this information every day. Now, it is my desire to pass it along to others in a clinic format, slow and easy. My goal is to take those who wish to further

their horsemanship skill and understanding to a level they never knew existed. This knowledge is like a natural high and success is habit forming. Once you *feel* it you will want nothing else but that feeling, I promise.





The best investment you can make for your horse is in your own equestrian education. That is something you can take wherever you go and apply to whatever horse you are working with at the time. I invested over

> \$55,000.00 in my education and feel it does me no good to keep it to myself. Therefore, I am donating my time to our horse community and our club members by hosting what I hope will be a series of clinics. I plan to offer many more clinics so that our community will be the best equestrian community it can be. My first one-day clinic will be approximately 10 hours with a maximum of 10 participants. The cost is \$75.00, payable to the Alta Loma Riding Club, which

includes lunch and water. I am giving a money-back guarantee that you will leave the clinic a better horseman and a better human.

My first clinic will be held on November 12, 2016, starting at 8:00am. I would like to meet all participants the evening before the clinic for a spaghetti dinner where we will get most of the framework on the ground done so that we have more time for actual hands-on in the clinic. We will focus on groundwork for a short while, addressing issues with our horses, and then move to under saddle to create a patient horse. Along the way we will touch on many aspects of riding and our frame of mind. If you sign up, please be ready to learn with an open mind and prepared for whatever comes our way. I hope you will join me for an informative and fulfilling horse day. To reserve your spot or to inquire, please call or text me at 909-477-9644.

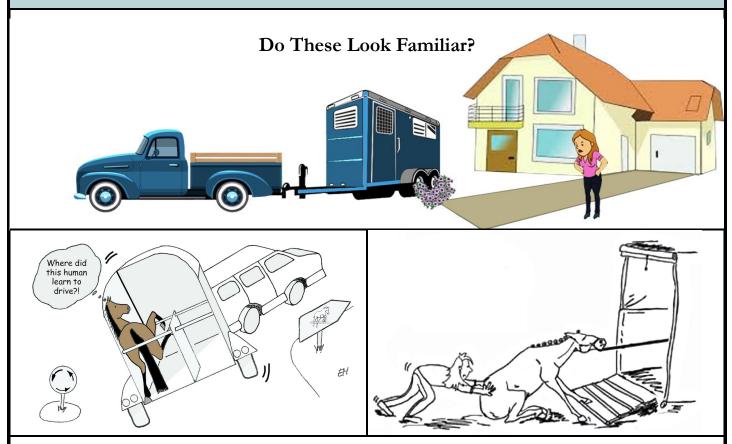


# Watch For Our Upcoming October Events!

By Cassie Sanchez 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

#### **General Membership Meeting**

Our General Membership meeting will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup>. The ALRC Show Committee is working hard on putting together fun activities for you and your horse. Check out our next newsletter for more information on this upcoming fun event.



#### If they do, we can help with a trailer clinic.

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will have a Trailer Safety Clinic to help refine your trailer skills. Safe trailering includes loading, driving and backing up. We will show you how to work with a difficult loader so you can load that horse safely. Also, we will cover equipment safety checks and how to drive, make lane changes and turn safely with a horse trailer. Plus, we will practice that all-important skill of backing a trailer right where you want it...without taking out the petunias. So, clear your calendar for October 22<sup>nd</sup> and come for a fun day of trailering!

#### Halloween Horse Haunt!

Start preparing for a fantastic Halloween by joining ALRC in our Halloween horse event and party. On October 29<sup>th</sup> at Heritage Park, we will be having a trail obstacle horse show and Halloween event. Wear a costume, bring your horse and participate in the fun activities. There will be obstacles around Heritage Park that you will ride through to test the abilities of horse and rider. Riders and horse are encouraged to wear creative costumes. Awards will be given in different categories for costuming. (Costumes are not mandatory for riders participating.) After the trail obstacle course, several fun classes such as pumpkin on a spoon, tissue pairs, etc., will be conducted in the main arena after prizes are awarded for the costume contest. Food will be available for purchase. Watch for further details in the newsletter and E-blasts. Any questions call Cassie at (909) 560-2822.

# 2016 City Council Candidates Forum

# Rancho Cucamonga

#### Find out where the candidates stand on the following important issues:

- The future of the west end trails
- Where and how new development will be handled in the city
- Relevance of the Equestrian/Rural Overlay District
- Future utilization of volunteers for several areas and activities
- Government Finance

**Date:** October 18, 2016

**Time:** 7:00pm

Location: Heritage Park Equestrian Center 5546 Beryl Street, Alta Loma CA 91701

# **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Alta Loma Riding Club Questions/Comments: Larry Henderson at Ihenderson25@charter.net / (909) 226-3956

## ALRC's Membership Chairman

By Ali Smilgis Membership Chairman

Howdy Folks! For those of you who are new to the club, I am the Membership Chairman and have been doing it for quite a while!

I have been riding since I was about 17 and my faithful steed, Riley, has been my companion for the last 2 years. My previous life (preretirement) was at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (where I worked to have enough money to have a horse) for 40 years. Besides riding, my interests include volunteering with the Rising Stars Equestrian Therapy group and performing with the Silver Fox Follies and D'Vines Choral group.

I sure hope to see many of you at our events throughout the year and also on the trail enjoying our wonderful trail system.

Unbelievably it is September already. Time sure does pass quickly. Our renewal season is pretty much done but some of you have not sent in your renewal forms, so I have sent a reminder and sure hope that I see your renewals in the mail.

HAPPY TRAILS!



Help

Janet Luke, a longtime ALRC member, is looking for someone to hire for cleaning and general help once or twice a week. She is disabled and

needs help on a permanent basis.

If you would like to help Janet and earn extra income, please call her at

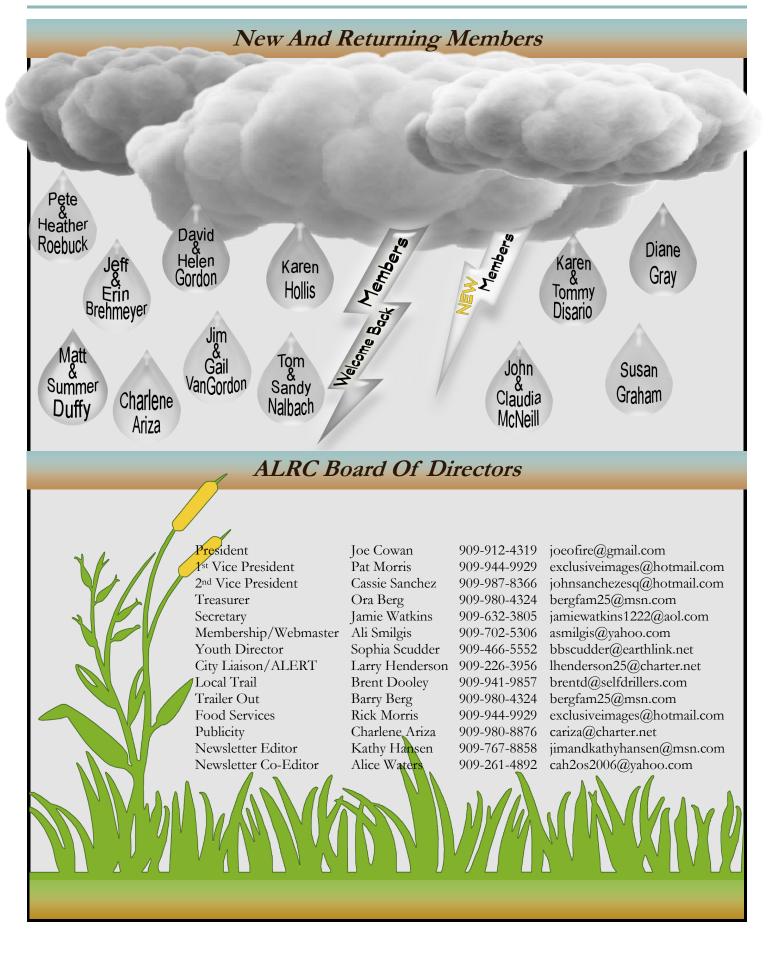
## Member News

Griffin Ridley lost his beloved Companion, Mojo, this month. He was a great companion and did so much with the Ridley clan.

We wish Griffin and the Ridley family our heartfelt sorrow for the loss of their beloved horse, Mojo.



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## Sophia Scudder Appointed As Youth Director

By Cassie Sanchez 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



Sophia Scudder is 13 years old and in 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Carden Arbor View School in Upland. Sophia's main love in life is her horse, Maeve, which she has owned for six months. Sophia has been riding since she was six years old but has become more involved with equestrian activities over the past five years. She currently is riding English in both dressage and hunter. While horses dominate her life, she also enjoys being a student council

member at her school, playing the piano, mountain biking and surfing. Actually, Sophia is pretty much interested in everything outdoors.

Sophia recently filled the vacant Youth Director position on the Alta Loma Riding Club board. She also is a member of the newly formed ALRC Show Committee, bringing a youthful perspective to the club's planned equestrian events. Join us in welcoming Sophia to the Board of Directors and Show Committee as we look forward to her unique viewpoint in the planning of Youth events and activities with the club.

If you have suggestions for ALRC youth events or activities, please contact Sophia at 909-466-5552 or bbscudder@earthlink.net



New Show Committee Formed!

By Cassie Sanchez 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

The Alta Loma Riding Club has formed a new committee: the ALRC Show Committee. The new members are Cassie Sanchez, Sophia Scudder (Youth Director) Summer Duffy, Diane Arnold, Karen Desario, Nicole Myerchin, Martha Cowan and Karen Petracek. This committee will meet on a regular basis to brainstorm ideas for ALRC sponsored equestrian events for the community, enhancing the Club's efforts to provide educational and fun activities for all its members.

The new ALRC Show Committee had its first meeting on August 4<sup>th</sup>. The committee put their heads together for the planning of future equestrian events based on the results of the survey previously taken by members regarding suggestions and desires for future ALRC sponsored equestrian events. Members were very enthusiastic as they discussed the future possibilities. Some of the ideas and goals they are considering include future clinics, horse shows and demonstrations. Preparations are already underway for a Halloween equestrian happening which promises to be fun and exciting for all. They also prepared for the Hot August Nights Clinic and the Evening Of The Horse which were a huge success.



**Rodeo Word Search** 

#### Find the hidden words related to rodeo.

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# A Few Photos Of The Beautiful Horses...And Mules































(at Carnelian in the Sunrize Shopping Center)

🗳 Each Office Independently Owned and Operated 🖨

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GRD





## Alta Loma Riding Club

P.O. Box 8116 Alta Loma, CA 91701 www.altalomaridingclub.com

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Community organization dedicated to the interest, lifestyle and continued preservation of owning and riding horses in Alta Loma and Rancho Cucamonga, CA