



October 2016

BRASS OAK DRIVING SOCIETY

www.brassoakdriving.com

Claystation HDT by Lilla

On the first weekend of August, I was able to participate in my first Horse Driving Trial (HDT) at Clay Station Horse Park, just south east of Elk Grove. We went up Friday afternoon and got to walk the obstacles and cones in preparation for the next morning. It was so much fun walking the grounds and seeing all of the obstacles that we would be driving but also all of the others that they could have offered.

I tried out my new Hay Pillow (well, Jacopo tried it!) and was pleased to arrive the next morning and have Jacopo still snacking out of it. My Dressage time was mid morning so it was nice not to rush, but I still almost made myself late. But to give me some credit, they were running fast and had a cancelation so the times did move up 5-10 minutes.

Tasha's (re-homed to me) little blue Dartmoor Carriage was wiped down and the brass (kind of) polished on the presentation shafts that she had gotten to me at the David Ventura clinic. Because of the things we had worked on in the David Ventura clinic, I made my straightest centerline entrance ever! My circles were the right shape and size but our clockwise was counter bent. I also accidentally made him slow on the rail as I tried to get him 'looking' to the inside to the right. And I didn't let him settle at the halt to back. But overall I was super happy about our test and knew that I would at least get second as there were two of us in Training Level Horse.

Immediately following Dressage we went and did our cones run. Jacopo was so consistent in his pace even after I had to bring him slower to make a few of the corners. I still managed to kill one but was easily within the time. Aleks, acting as my navigator, helper for the weekend, and moral support, and I then re walked the obstacles before lunch. We also walked most of the (almost) 6k course. This was a good thing because there were some confusing intersections and it would be very easy to get on the wrong track or miss some of the gates. Then we had to wait for our afternoon go for the marathon part B. Claystation provided us with a great lunch and ice cream promised at the awards ceremony after marathon.

The afternoon warmed up for marathon but it was not as hot as it could have been for August in the Sacramento Area. We crossed the start line right on time and headed out for the course! Jacopo did great but he did look at the people in lawn chairs on the right and people coming out of the trees with their VSEs on the left. Thankfully he went on straight and we entered the first obstacle. We had to slow down but it probably was the tightest of the obstacles on course that day.

My fat morgan was so good and really liked the game of it. Each obstacle was faster and smoother even when I turned too soon in the town obstacle and had to take the long way to "B". Jacopo only slowed twice, once to poop and once when I turned too sharp and whipped out a compulsory flag and I stopped to put Aleks down to set it back up. The judges at the obstacle, that we had just came out of, yelled and waved for us to go on.

Coming out of our last obstacle, I was excited to head to the finish line and had Aleks not been there to tell me "Left. Go left. LEFT!" I would have missed some of the flags and disqualified myself. Then the countdown began. Aleks had our maximum time (with out penalties) on our watch and started counting down from 30 seconds. That finish line was so far away and Jacopo was wondering why we weren't taking walk breaks but I encouraged him on and he lengthened and speed up his trot and we came in only 2 seconds over max time!

I couldn't have been more happy with what we did and though sweaty, Jacopo was not breathing hard at all, but he did enjoy a good drink after walking around for a little while.

At awards, and the promised ice cream, I prepared myself to get the second place ribbon, but when they announced my class they only gave out first, and it was to me! The other driver had been eliminated on marathon. Bad luck for them, and had Aleks not been there to point me the way, I would have been too, but I was so happy because my goal for the show was "Don't get Eliminated" (we are thinking off making that our motto).

We stayed the night, and I would have liked to have volunteered for Sunday, but we had a family reunion to get to in King City on Sunday afternoon. I cannot wait to go again but unfortunately it won't be until next year as I already have a conflict for the HDT in October, but hope to next Spring.



It may technically be Fall but Summer isn't going away with out a fight. I hope everyone is getting to play with their "ponies" between the heat waves.

Club members have had a busy month starting with the Harry Councell clinic the first weekend of September. The Saturday clinic was well received and the club gained a few more members. The private lessons, on Sunday and Monday, went very well and some of those participants have had Harry meet with them other times thru the month.

The last of the California Triple Crown Combined Driving Series was held at the beautiful Shady Oaks Equestrian Center and our club members knocked it out of the park! Diane and 'Spencer' won the Triple crown Advanced Single Horse, Tasha and 'Danny' took Intermediate Single Horse, and Ann and 'Marc' had some great scores. You can watch their tests from Shady Oaks at Rideonvideo.net

I had some fun (okay, A LOT of fun) helping Kay and Larry with their Gypsy Vanner horses for a couple weekends at the Northern California Renaissance Fair. Two of their horses, 'Mr. Bojangles' and their pride and joy stallion 'Kaloo' were wonderful to work with and I got to drive 'Kaloo' several times. What a good guy for having different people ride him, or in my case drive him, and never a complaint. No wonder they are so proud of him!

Our monthly meeting had some important business covered and the biggest was the vote to let the Whip'r Snapper Club have the Dressage Festival for 2017 but with hopes of bringing it back to the Paso Robles Horse Park for 2018. We need to put the word out that we are looking for an organizer.

The end of the year is coming quickly and we are looking to set up the board for next year. We will be needing a new club Treasurer for this coming November and December as well. I wouldn't argue with a new President either for the coming year! I'm hoping that Gloria will consider staying Secretary as she does a great job getting information out to the members. If you would like to volunteer for a position please let someone know. Elections happen in November and start in January.

We also need ideas as to where to hold our December meeting. In the past it has been Pot luck style at some ones house/barn, or at a restaurant but we would need to get a reservation as that will start filling up soon. Please send in those ideas!

To new members; Welcome! And to all members, if there is a clinician or activity that you are interested in having please bring it up at a meeting. If you are interested in it chances are someone else in the club is too and there are people who can help you figure out how to put on that event.

'Till then, Happy Driving!

Lilla



2016 Officers

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Shady Oaks CDE, Also final leg of the Western States Triple Crown and my journey with Spencer

Submitted by Diane Kastama

My journey with Spencer, Spencer is an 11 year old Friesian Morgan Cross. I have leased him for the past year from Marjean MacIntyre of Camptown Harness in Wilton, South Carolina. Last year I was talking to Marjean and saying I really wanted to show in the upper levels and had just retired Rupert from competing Advanced as a single horse and Cavalier my 5 yr old Dutch Harness Cross was going through his teenage years. She made me an off the cuff offer. She said Spencer had been sitting in her pasture for 2 years with only occasionally being driven. And she was Eventing now, and her daughter just had premature twins and so she had no time for Spencer, she didn't want to sell him, but was willing to lease him to me. So I had an AZ friend who had just moved to SC, go take a look at him, and with just two photos of him and a video of him being hitched. I said "What the Heck" paid to have him shipped out. I showed him last year Preliminary at Sargents CDE in August with only 2 weeks of driving him under my belt, he was a power house and full of himself. The dressage test was a race to the finish line. 13th out of 13 in dressage, moved up to 7th after marathon and 6th after cones. Had a lesson with Olaf Larson the Monday after the show and he loved Spencer but couldn't believe I had just done an event with him. So 2.5 weeks later off to Shady Oaks Intermediate, finished last but worked out as he had made huge strides. So as I continued to drive Spencer throughout the winter, every drive was better. He is still a power house but getting stronger behind, and better able to control himself. So the Triple Crown requires you to enter all three shows at the same level (Summer Festival CDE – June, Sargents CDE – Aug, Shady Oaks CDE Sept) I thought to myself, after reading the Omnibus (ADS show listing) that wow Summer Festival was offering Intermediate II (advanced dressage and cones, Intermediate marathon) and the dressage test was an older Advanced test that I knew well and thought I could get Spencer ready for it! So I entered Intermediate II. Meanwhile I attempted our first Advanced tests at the Pacific Region Driven Dressage festival hosted by our club in April, and we did pretty well so I was feeling good. Summer Festival CDE was a great experience we scored pretty good on our test a 66, considering Spencer freaked out at the lamps on the carriage they rattled and I had to take them off. Marathon was a blast, still spooked at a few things missed a few turns, and then an awesome run on cones and I mean run, a built faster and faster as the course went along. After the show I was happy with how we did but had just discovered Shady Oaks the end was offering the hard FEI dressage test, with Yields, 3 canters and 4 trots, 2 walks, a halt and a reinback. OMG... I knew I had hard ground to hoe. Back to work and off to Oregon to get another show under our belt. Spencer was awesome, more settled for dressage, but still a bit overpowering for cones, nice settled marathon. Back home and to work for Sargents.. Another run for dressage, I know he sees those hazards and went into marathon mode, but pulled it together for an OK dressage test we were first, best marathon ever made all the tight turns and gave Benjy a run for his money. Cones was a disaster in the sand arena with the carriage sliding, but he was controllable. I started to panic when I got home, Shady Oaks was only 2.5 weeks away and I had to work on that dressage test.. And Spencer went off his feed for 5 days. So the last week before the show, I hauled over and drove at Ann's everyday and Spencer was not his best, real panic set in! But I was entered no changing it now. To top it off Spencer came down with an allergy attack that had also bothered him in the spring, and the drug rules say I can't give him the inhalers and also show. I was nervous about dressage but decided, to just put my big girl panties on and go for it. Spencer was awesome, he gave me everything he had and then some, Best FEI test he has ever driven and the hardest, we still have a lot of work to do, but WOW we pulled it off. Marathon, we drove easy because of his breathing. And cones, Spencer was awesome, he was in control slowed down and speeded up when asked. He has come a long way in a year!! And to top it off we came home with an Advanced Single Horse Win, and the Triple Crown Winner at Advanced Single Horse!!!! The hard work paid off. Congratulations also go to members Tasha Wilkie in Intermediate Single Horse, and Ann McClure placed 3rd at Preliminary Single Horse in the Triple Crown.



Pictures from various events. Eli Decker holding Spencer .



IHOP Restaurant, SLO September 19, 2016

Members: Debra Hilberg, Lilla & Aleks Hewitt, Liz Miller, Gloria Walter, Larry & Kay Weeks, Diane Kastama, Ann McClure, Disa Thorensen, Jackie Pamplona, Else Wolff

President Lilla Hewitt called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes – The minutes from the August 15th meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report – Gloria presented the Treasurer's Report prepared by Shaun Wilde, on file. Re the Driving Clinic for Beginners with Harry Councill on September 3-4, Gloria reported that income very closely covered expenses. Report on file.

Old Business –

Dressage Festival – Contact was made with the Paso Robles Horse Park to discuss possible available dates in 2017. Diane worked up a list of possible income sources and projected expenses for the show. If all classes were sponsored and no fee was paid to an Organizer and Secretary, it appears we could show a loss of about \$1,800. After considerable discussion, motion was made and seconded, and carried unanimously, that the club skip putting on the Dressage Festival for 2017 and reconsider the possibility for 2018. In the meantime, Diane will advise Whip R Snappers of our decision as they expressed interest in putting on the show in 2017.

One suggestion was that the club consider having a Pleasure Driving Show at the Horse Park in 2017 which could include some dressage classes.

New Business –

Reading of email – Club member Linda Fairbanks asked that her email be read at the meeting where she voiced her "objection to paying club members to work (as organizers or secretary) at any club event; that club members' time is given to the club to help grow the club". Volunteers in the past have never been paid, except for out-of-pocket expenses, as is outlined in the By-laws of the organization. It was noted that several members agree with this policy.

Kay Weeks announced that she is participating in the Renaissance Faire at Casa De Fruita which runs from this weekend for several weekends into October. Anyone who wishes to attend can give Kay a call to get details. She participates in jousting with her Gypsy Vanner stallion and also gives a driving demonstration.

Calendar of Club Events –

October 15-16 – Parkfield Drive. Lilla advised she has 7 entries so far and knows of others who plan to attend. Five RV spaces are available. Friday will be a potluck and breakfast will be provided Saturday. She urged members to send in their forms and payment as soon as possible.

November 19-20 – David Ventura is scheduled to give ridden and driven dressage lessons at Ann McClure's. Lessons are \$90 and \$20 to audit. A \$5.00 fee per person will go to the club. Email Ann to reserve a spot, but DO NOT MAIL CHECKS to Ann until they install a secure mailbox.

December – Club Christmas Party – Put on the October agenda to discuss. It was suggested we poll club members to get ideas.

Other Events – See calendar on last page of newsletter.

Announcements/Reports

September 15-18 – Shady Oaks CDE, Lodi, CA – Diane gave a report on how everyone did and noted that Tasha Wilkie had won the Triple Crown.

Next Meeting –

October 17 – Atascadero Library – Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. You may arrive earlier; the meeting room will be open by 6:15 p.m.

Adjournment –

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Walter, Secretary

Internet Pick of the Month: contributed by Ann McClure

I ran across a collection of short videos describing harness parts, measuring, fitting and using.

<http://www.ponyandcarriage.co.uk/horse-drawn-leather-biothane-harness-measurement-form.htm>



Danny and Tasha Wilkie won Intermediate Single Horse Triple Crown.

Danny posing with his awards.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

BODS needs nominations for Board positions at the October meeting, to be voted on in November, and take office in January 2017. Please give some thought to running for one of the 7 Board positions.... President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and 3 Members at Large.

New ideas and fresh input are always welcome and it is satisfying to lend a hand by volunteering to help direct the club. Suggest new ideas for events, help new members and drivers become educated in driving safely, and sponsor an event. That's what the club is all about.

Talk to other club members about throwing their hat in the ring, try it yourself. Let any of the Board members know you are volunteering to run for office or suggest someone in the club (with their permission). Let us know before the next meeting which is scheduled for Monday, October 17th, at the Atascadero Library.

Parkfield Reunion 2016
October 15-16 Parkfield Rodeo Grounds Downtown Parkfield

Join your driving and riding friends for a fun time in historic Parkfield, Calif. A ranch road course is available for unlimited driving through the scenic oak chaparral landscape. Routes are designed for an enjoyable and leisurely ride. Some of the more outlying ranch roads may have cattle and wildlife present. Keep an eye out for those piggies.

Also happening in Parkfield on this reunion weekend is the Annual Artisan Roundup, with vendors and evening entertainment. Limited corral space is available at no charge on a first entry received basis for weekend drivers. Self-stabling is allowed and encouraged. Bring food to share for a pot-luck on Friday at 5:30 p.m. Breakfast and Lunch on Saturday will be available for purchase. Breakfast will be a fresh baked good and lunch will be Backward CG Farm Chicken Sandwiches prepared by Aleks and Lilla Hewitt. Orders will be taken on Friday. There is a cafe in town as well.

Rooms in town are already booked. Dry camping is available. There are restrooms on site. If you would like to be put on the Parkfield Lodge waitlist, contact the Parkfield Lodge and Cafe at 805-463-2421. There is no gasoline for sale in Parkfield. Closest gas is 25 miles in San Miguel, although Paso Robles is cheaper. Bring flashlights because Parkfield is dark at night. Cell phones may or may not have service, depending on carrier and location. Verizon is the preferred carrier in town.

Entry fee: \$50 covers the driver and groom for the weekend. \$30 for single day use. Safety check will begin at 9 a.m. Drive at will all day.

Check-in: Friday arrival time is after 3:00.

Directions

From the South, take Highway 101 to San Miguel. Exit at Mission Street. Turn right on River Road. Just after crossing the Salinas River bridge, turn left onto Cross Canyon Road, then an immediate left onto Indian Valley Road. Proceed on Vineyard Canyon Road for 17 miles. Follow the signs to Parkfield. Turn right onto Oak Street to get to rodeo grounds. Look for the Brass Oaks sign.

From the East, take Highway 46/41 to the Cholame Valley Road. Stay on Cholame Valley Road to Parkfield. Follow the signs to Parkfield. Turn right onto Oak Street to get to rodeo grounds. Look for the Brass Oaks sign.

Mail entry form to Lilla Hewitt. 69482 Parkfield Coalinga Road, San Miguel, CA 93451

Questions? Call Lilla at 805-463-2342 or email lillathomason@gmail.com

NAME: _____ CLUB MEMBER: _____

ADDRESS: _____ TOWN: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION: _____

NAME OF HORSE(S): _____ RIDER: _____ DRIVER: _____

APPROX. ARRIVAL DAY/TIME: _____ NEED STABLING: _____

Please Check One of the Following:

WEEKEND DRIVER: _____ SATURDAY ONLY: _____ SUNDAY ONLY: _____

FEES ENCLOSED:\$ _____

WHIP'R SNAPPER DRIVING SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PRESENTS THE

HALLOWEEN HUSTLE CARRIAGE DRIVING SHOW

SATURDAY - OCTOBER 29, 2016

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Organizer: Jody Cutler, 805-529-2753 or e-mail, m.jodycutler@gmail.com
See entry form on www.whiprsnappers.com or ADS Pleasure Driving entry form in the Omnibus.

Party Time!!!

Okay, let's discuss ideas for a club Christmas party. Having an early dinner at a restaurant worked well last year and seemed to be well received. We were able to have our White Elephant Gift Exchange and just relax and have fun. If we decide to do the same this year, we will need to check into restaurant availability, discuss dates, etc. Your suggestions are needed!

This should be discussed at our October meeting (and November if necessary) so we don't wait too long to get a reservation. It can be held in North or South County. Give any Board member your ideas.

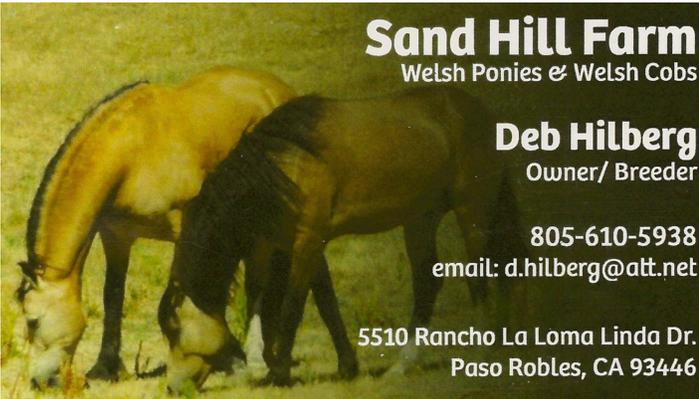
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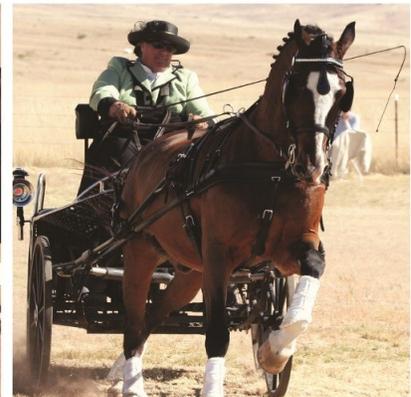
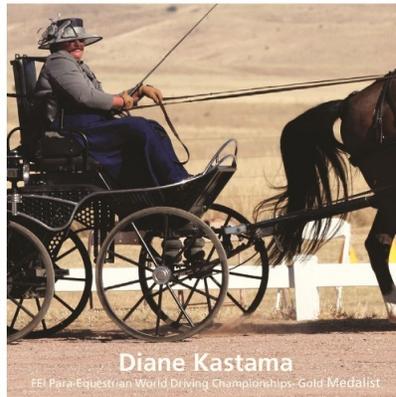
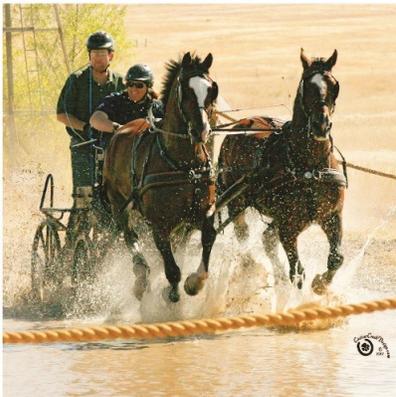
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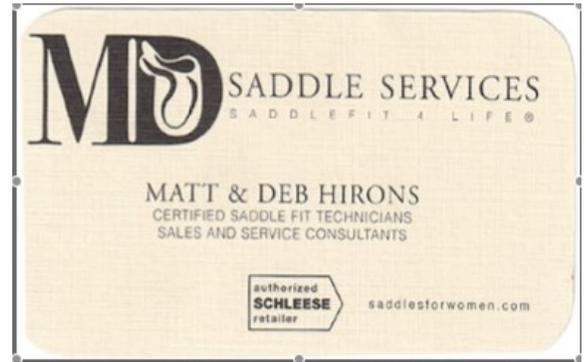
Summer sheet, size 68 winter blanket, size 68 both used - very good condition \$30.00 for both

805-239-1059 evenings or putter@tcsn.net Cathy Ripple

WANTED: Harness for small Spanish Gaited Horse, a bit smaller than a Welsh Pony. Needs to be very reasonably priced.

Also looking for Pony Cart for training same. THX.

Call DEE 805 674-9247 (Judith's neighbor in Templeton)



For Sale: two metal easy-entry carts. One fits a Section A Welsh Pony and the other fits a 13-2 hand pony. Both are in good condition and have been stored in a garage for about 5 years. No rust. asking \$300 for each—located in Santa Maria. The lady is in a rehab hospital and can be reached at: 614-1852. Her name is Grace Kalal. If you can't reach her, call Stephanie Bishop at 925-5894. Stephanie can show you the carts but is not familiar with any details about them, i.e. shaft length, etc. Grace has a few other items like a driving apron, etc. also.

Please pass the word or give her a call for more information.

Gloria

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – BODS –
2016



• (Needed: organizers and co-organizers at events).

October 15-16 – Parkfield Drive, RV space still available

Nov. 19-20 David Ventura Clinic at Ann's.

December TBA — BODS Christmas Party

About Brass Oak Driving Society

The Brass Oak Driving Society exists to encourage, educate and inspire its members in the world of carriage driving. We recognize that every member has different goals, and we are committed to providing opportunities for every member to participate, learn and grow in a safe, friendly and fun way.



Brass Oak Driving Society Membership Form

Yes, I/we want to join the Brass Oak Driving Society. Memberships are for one year beginning January 1st and ending December 31st. New subscriptions or renewals paid after November 1st will apply to the following year. No refunds on membership. Make check payable to BRASS OAK DRIVING SOCIETY.

Please mail to:

Gloria Walter

6268 Hog Canyon Rd.

San Miguel, CA 93451

\$35 membership with newsletter via email

\$50 membership with newsletter via USPS

NAME(S):
STREET ADDRESS:
CITY, STATE, ZIP:
Email:
TELEPHONE(S):

Check here if you do NOT wish to be included on the club roster. This roster is distributed to club members only.

BODS Newsletter Advertising Rates

CLASSIFIEDS (3 ISSUES): *No charge for members. \$5 for non-members with a 25 word maximum.*

BUSINESS ADS (6 ISSUES): *No charge for members. Non-members: \$25 business card ad*

\$50 quarter page ad

\$75 half page ad

Driving Events around the region:

Oct 15-16 ADS Pacific Regional meeting Quincy, CA (see flyer pg 4)

Oct 29 Halloween Hustle Oak Run Farm, Moorpark www.whipsnappers.com

Oct 29-30 Claystation HDT Wilton, CA claystationhorsepark.com

Oct 29-30 Halloween Haunt at Whiffletree Ranch Madera CA contact Jack McKee ultralite@netptc.net

October 29-November 9 – Cal Poly classes on horse anatomy/physiology (2-hour sessions) on three Saturdays, put on by Dr. Voss.

Feb 25-26 Continuous Drive RAM TAP contact Phyllis Rumley or CVHA

June 3-4 – Pleasure Days, Lakeview Terrace, CA www.whipsnappers.com

Pacific Region ADS calendar: http://www.americandrivingsociety.org/regn_pacific.asp



6268 Hog Canyon Rd.
San Miguel, CA

luvmetenderfarm.com

"ONE LEFT" - Nine of the ten rescued minis from Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue have been adopted to wonderful homes. One sweet little 3 year old, Jolene, is patiently waiting for her new best friend. She can be haltered, has had her shots, hoof trim (for the first time in her life), is microchipped and her adoption fee is \$400 through PVDR.

We also have 3 of our own mini donkeys available: a 5-year old brown gelding, a 10-year old dark brown jennet, and a 2-year old gray jennet, all reasonably priced. If you ever thought about getting into breeding mini donkeys, we have our very handsome 5-year old sorrel jack for sale also. Registered, with champion stock in his pedigree, he would make a great breeding jack to quality jennets. Baby donkeys are absolutely the cutest and are quite popular right now.

Call Gloria at: 805-467-9204 or 805-610-4966.



Our October meeting will be at Atascadero Library.

6:15 social time, 7pm meeting

Monday, October 17th.