



NEWS



Annual Meeting

Nov 9th 7pm @ West Homer Elementary School!!!!

The agenda will include:

- ~ Discussion of current status of the Cottonwood Horse Park
- ~ Our letter writing campaign to support our inclusion on the city's CIP list
- ~ Election of the Board of Directors.
- ~ 4H Trailblazers will present on the process of raising and auctioning livestock,
- ~ Kachemak Pony Club will present a summary of their summer activities,
- ~ Unstable Vices will present a summary of their summer activities.

There will be food and the possibility of a song or two.

Call Roberta to get on the agenda @ 235-8214

Invite Sponsors/Members!

Member:	Supporting	Riding
Individual:	\$ 30	\$ 60
Family:	\$100	\$200

Sponsor:

Platinum:	\$ 1,500 & above
Gold:	\$ 1,000 - \$1,499
Silver:	\$ 500 - \$ 999
Bronze:	\$ 200 - \$ 499
Land Barron:	\$ 100 - \$ 199
Gambler:	\$ 50 - \$ 99
Cowpoke:	\$ 35 - \$ 49

Pick yer poison:

Please make my contribution specifically for:

Land payment - \$	_____
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Sponsors 2009

Sponsors are listed in each newsletter.

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Gambler:

Lucy Cutting
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Lori Richards
Sue Robinson

Cowpoke:

Eileen Mullen

Thank you 2009 Sponsors!

There is a full and complete list of all the Sponsors to date on the website! Check it out!

We appreciate your donations to make Cottonwood Horse Park a reality. Please send your sponsorship to:

KBEA
PO Box 3120
Homer, AK 99603

Newsletter Update:

Now that the arena is up and running for our members, we will put out a Newsletter only twice a year.
April/May & Oct/Nov

Kachemak Bay Equestrian Assoc.

Email: KbayEA@gmail.com
Website: KbayEquestrian.org

A BIG THANK YOU TO
Merry Web Designs
for doing our WEBSITE!!!

*****ATTENTION*****

Due to a conflict at City Hall we will be moving our annual meeting to the library at West Homer Elementary. It will still begin at 7 pm on Monday, November 9th and include several presentations, entertainment and food. Plus, of course, a short business meeting that includes the election of the board of directors. See you there!

2010 Board Nominees are:

President: Roberta Highland
Vice Pres: Renee Eidem
Treasurer: Donna Richards
Secretary: Janet Fink
Members at large:

Marian Beck
Jackie Eisenberg
Sarah Robertson
Sue Robinson
Shirley Schollenberg



From The Horse's Mouth



Howdy Everyone!!!

Once again, a great BIG *Thank You* goes out to Tim Quinn for this BEAUTIFUL sign he made for the park!

Tim – you are very much appreciated for all the hard work and talent you put forth for the benefit of Cottonwood Horse Park day after day.

We love and appreciate every little thing you do!

The Whole KBEA Family



In Loving Memory...

Thank you to the friends and family of Edna Anderson for donations given in her memory to benefit Cottonwood Horse Park.

May you be comforted in this time of loss.



Howdy everyone!!! The riding season was amazing, as you will see while reading the articles about the past horse happenings in our area. KBEA wants to give a big *“Thank you”* to all the people who made these events possible.

The Homer Foundation Grant was well spent. We had a big work party on May 16th. We now have three new picnic tables, four benches, a handicapped accessible restroom with bars, shelves in our storage room, a door and shelves in the storage area in the bathroom, first aid kits, and a fire extinguisher. Homer Foundation has been kind enough to extend the deadline on our grant, and the remaining grant funds will be used to build bleachers into the hill above the arena.

KBEA continues to fundraise--it seems like we have been doing this forever. We have accomplished a lot in 4 years, but *we still owe \$130,000 to complete the purchase of the property.* Therefore, anybody and everybody, pony up! It will only take 130 people with \$1000, or 1300 people with \$100. How hard can this be???

None of this would be possible without the help and support of our magnificent horses. I want to thank our horses for sharing their spirit, beauty, power, and taking us to places that would not be possible without them.

Riding a horse is not a gentle hobby, to be picked up and laid down like a game of solitaire. It is a grand passion. It seizes a person whole, and once it has done so, they have to accept that their life will be radically changed.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

Cottonwood Horse Park continues to be a labor of love for many, and we wouldn't be anywhere without all of you and our horses. Happy Trails!!!

Happy Trails!!!

Roberta Highland
President



In Appreciation...

Camp Hosts

A hearty *Thank You* to Sue True and Dave McNally for being wonderful camp hosts this past summer. They set up their homey camper trailer in a corner of the park and went to work. The list of their accomplishments is impressive.

- *Straightened and measured all of the arena boards and finished painting them.
- *Built shelves in the storage area and the handicapped-accessible restroom.
- *Cleaned the restrooms.
- *Moved the concrete slab to the front of the handicapped-accessible restroom.
- *Cut and cleared alders.
- *Helped at fundraisers and park events.
- *Built a wall around manure cans.
- *Used their 4-wheeler to groom the arena.
- *Signed up new members and checked riders to make sure they were members.
- *Kept the park tidy, cleaned up litter, and took the garbage to the dump
- *Paid for water, electric, and restroom pumping.
- *Added a "touch of class" to the park with their smiles and helpfulness.

Dave and Sue--your hard work was very much appreciated. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

KBEA Board of Directors

"Fun Series" Horse Show

Thank you to all of you who made the "Fun Series Horse Show" such a huge success! Soldotna and Ninilchik participation helped make this a great time for all. It was a well-attended, successful fundraiser for the park. Plans are in the works to have the series next summer as well, so please plan now to attend. More adult riders are needed in English and Western. A big "Thank You" to all the volunteers! Including the entry and announcer's booths, and the ring crew. Also, to Allison Trimble for a great job as judge!

Donna Richards, Coordinator

2nd Annual Cottonwood Horse Park Season Opening

This year's season opening included a Chili Cook off, riding demonstrations, and pony rides. The Chili cook off was a great success. Several chili entries gave the crowd a wide variety of Chili to taste, with the Peoples Choice Award going to Linda Reinhart for her "Daffodil Chili". Sponsors donated prizes including Dinner for two at the Saltry Restaurant in Halibut Cove, Gift Certificates from Kachemak Gear Shed, and a sweatshirt from Manana Print. Local artist and farrier Tim Quinn made a Horseshoe Trophy, which was presented to the Chili Cook off Winner and will go to the new winner each year. Spectators enjoyed watching a wide variety of riding demonstrations put on by our local equestrians. Members of Kachemak Pony Club and the local 4-H group volunteered to offer pony rides (which were a big hit with the local kids). "Fun was had by all" and we look forward to hosting next years 3rd annual Cottonwood Horse Park Season Opening and Chili Cook off. *Jackie Eisenberg, Coordinator*

Land Payment

Thanks to all for donating toward our land payment in June. We made our goal! Looking toward next years goal... call Jackie @ 235-0192 with your fundraising ideas, or to let her know you are interested in joining the Fundraising Committee.

Neighboring property -

Did you notice all the JUNK was removed from the property west of the park? A great big THANK YOU to *Doti Harness, with the City of Homer*, who coordinated the clean up that took place. It looks GREAT!

Committees:

Finance / Fundraising:

Jackie Eisenberg, Chair 235-0192
Arndt, Sandy Crandall, Cass
Eidem, Renee Fabich, Jeanie
Koth, Annette Pierce, Therese
Quinn, Tim Rourke, Shishana

Culinary: Beck, Marian Eisenberg, Jackie

Building: Tim Quinn, Chair 299-2780
Archibald, Robert
Eidem, Renee Ervice, Elizabeth
Stuiver, Yolande Willis, Skip

Historian / Marketing / News Letter / Web Site:

>>>We are desperately seeking Chairperson!!!!



Arndt, Sandy Fabich, Jeanie
Kilcher, Mossy

Transportation / Facility Rental / Travel:

Renee Eidem, Chair 235-8567
Arndt, Sandy Schollenberg, Shirley

Regulatory / Safety / Risk Reduction:

Crandall, Cass

You may have noticed since last newsletter
there are fewer people signed onto these committees...
please renew your membership
and renew your commitment to help!

*Check out the options available and
call or email your area of
"committee interest"
before we get the '10 Directory done...*

you tooooooooooooo could be on a committee. ☺

It's not too late to volunteer - call Renee @ 235-8567

email: KbayEA@gmail.com

Upcoming Fundraisers:

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Consider now renewing
your membership for 2010.
Get your friends and family to
join, too!

You can enjoy their
company on KBEA sponsored
trail rides, clinics, play days,
pony club events, 4H events,
etc next spring & summer and
you can help raise money for
next June's land payment!

We currently have *ninety-six*
KBEA Members. Thank you to
all of you for your continued
support. Don't forget to talk to
your friends and get them to
join in 2010.

HOME MADE FLY SPRAY:

6 full caps	avon skin so soft
1 cup	white vinegar
good squirt	ivory liquid soap

Other popular add-ins include:

listerine
eucalyptus oil
citronella oil

~~~~~  
A mixture of baby oil and mouth  
wash rubbed into the dock of the  
tail with a washcloth can help  
sooth the itchy spots that your  
horse has been rubbing.

## Natural Horsemanship Clinic Held at Cotton Wood Horse Park

by Shirley Schollenberg

Several local aspiring horse men and women (left to right Taylor Jule, Sue Robinson, Shirley Schollenberg, Barry Cox, Tommy & Lynn Patton, Janet Fink) took advantage of an opportunity to further their horsemanship skills by participating in the horsemanship clinic held at the park this fall.



Barry Cox, a long time horsemanship teacher and rancher from Lostine, Oregon shared his insight about creating partnerships with our horse friends during a fun filled two day clinic in August.

With all levels of horses and riders attending the clinic, Barry stepped up to the challenge of including everyone and seeing that each horse and rider had success.

Two of the Patton's young horses had their first official rides during the clinic. With Barry's help, all the necessary groundwork was done before the riders mounted so the colts were very relaxed and happy to be working with their riders. Tom Patton's horse, Gunner, learned how to relax in the round pen and look to his human owner as a friend and not as a threat.

Janet Fink and Mocha Moon also learned how to respect each other in the round pen, which gave Janet the confidence to ride Mocha with more authority and leadership. Mocha began to understand Janet was a good leader and was willing to allow a few moments where she trusted Janet completely – a start to a good partnership.

By helping the riders understand the importance of timing a release or reward to whatever request they were asking of the horses, Barry was able to show the clinic participants how to get quick and quiet results from their horses. Barry plans to be back next summer, so watch for clinic dates.



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Shirley Schollenberg ~ 398-7665

Let's talk horse!



Do you know... Sue?

KBEA welcomes Sue Robinson to the board.

We have invited Sue to join the Board of Directors for KBEA. Sue grew up on the family farm in Sterling, Alaska with horses. She has a lot to share with fellow horse lovers.

"I started training horses in high school and at 17 yrs went to a stock horse training school in MN that gave me a strong foundation in starting youngsters under saddle. When I returned home I began training, instructing, and showing both Western and English in statewide shows. More schooling at a dressage school in NJ and through clinicians at home lead me to appreciate the fascinating world of dressage.

In 1981 I bought a Trakehner stud colt from a farm in NY that owned the future Olympic show jumping winner Abdullah, and through that association had a glimpse of the world of international competition. With the addition of an Anglo Trakehner mare I raised a few babies, built up my training facility in Sterling, and helped promote an interest in dressage and combined training.

Big changes were in the wind by 1995. I sold the horse training facility I'd developed in Sterling, bought land overlooking Kachemak Bay out East Road, and after a summer of long hours on heavy equipment with my family's construction company, packed up and drove to Washington state to finish college. Construction work was becoming too demanding as the physical limitations from Multiple Sclerosis increased. I was in search of a new career and hoped to find a new interest that would dull the loss of my lifelong passion, working with horses.

Four years later I had a degree but hadn't shaken my need for horses. During the summers I'd been home to work construction and had slowly begun to design my home at the end of Wild Haven Road. By 2001 my body forced me off of heavy equipment and I took an early retirement from the Operator's Union. Two old horses were still with me, my beloved Trakehner Soldat, and the last of a line I'd had since childhood, Nizhonie.

Fearing I would lose one and leave the other lonely, I decided I needed a new challenge and found my intrepid imp, Mindy, and hauled her home from Nevada in 2005. The next winter was the last for my dear old horses, and I found a companion for Mindy in N. Dakota and had Foxy hauled up in 2007. These two Quarter Horse fillies have recharged my life and led me to explore new ways of enjoying horses and creating relationships I hadn't known were possible.

The horse facility I've jokingly referred to, as Wild Horse Haven that has evolved with Mindy & Foxy is the result of a single-minded love for horses! In the early days I slept in a tent as I slowly built a cabin, pastures, shed and water system. Years of living in unfinished houses, saving, and working a wage job while also managing a business has allowed me to provide my horses with all they need.

Now with a CoverAll riding arena and a convenient barn attached, we cruise through the seasons. My wish now is to contribute to the local horse community by supporting and facilitating the knowledge and enjoyment of horses."

Sue Robinson



Getting certified in “EGE” (Equine Guided Education)

by Devony Lehner

What doors of self-awareness, learning, discovery, the unexpected have horses opened for you? It wasn't so long ago that I didn't even know horses could open such doors. What I did know after nine years of lessons at Eaton Equestrian Centre in Anchorage was that learning to ride could teach self-discipline, patience, commitment, and how to tell your right leg from your left. And I also knew that horses were mysterious alien creatures I'd never figure out.

After moving to Homer in 1987 and enduring two back surgeries a few years later, I sold my mare to another student at Julie Eaton's and figured my horse days were basically over. Little did I know! A few years later, when I began to build a house—I'd been renting since moving to Homer—my friend Charlotte told me I could use two of her horses during the summer and she'd take care of them during the winter with the rest of her and Otto's herd. How could I resist? By then I'd read Monty Roberts' first book, *The Man Who Talks to Horses*. The whole “animal behavior” approach he used appealed deeply to my biologist's way of thinking. In the summer of 2001, Charlotte and I took the two chosen geldings to a “Parelli” clinic taught by Barb Apple at Shirley Schollenberg's. Hmm, that was interesting. By November I was in my newly finished house and had discovered RFD-TV. Soon I was watching hours of “natural horsemanship” with Clinton Anderson, Richard Winters, Chris Cox, and other clinicians with weekly shows on the channel. The next summer I fenced a 2-acre paddock and put up a round pen. I figured I was as ready as I was gonna be, and in September 2002, I brought the two geldings over from Charlotte's. When it wasn't pouring (we had two 100-year floods that fall), I began doing groundwork with Bossa Nova and Ceilidh. Being “homestead horses,” they took my clumsy misdirection in good-natured stride.

Having horses in the backyard was a new experience. I could watch them from the window seat in the living room. Watching them became my favorite show. Everything they did enthralled me, even just standing around. I began buying dozens of books about horses. Klaus Ferdinand Hempfling's books taught me to put aside agendas and goals when with horses. “Don't think of ‘working’ with horses,” he advised, “think of ‘meditating’ with them.” Linda Kohanov's books taught me that the frustration, impatience, fear, surprise, elation I felt when working with horses could be viewed as “information” to use to learn about myself, about my knee-jerk reactions. And once I became conscious of my automatic reactions, I could begin to alter them if I chose. Mark Rashid's books taught me that the things that make us good people—kindness, patience, clarity, flexibility, integrity—are the same things that make us good horse people, which means we can work on horsemanship anytime, anywhere. Temple Grandin's books taught me how horses learn through association and that they probably think in pictures, as does she. Ariana Strozzi's book taught me to maintain a mindset of “open inquiry” when with horses (and with life in general), to avoid “assessments” and assumptions that narrowed the range of possibilities. This reminded me of a Buddhist saying: “In the beginner's mind there are many possibilities, in the expert's mind there are few.” I began to revel in having a “beginner's mind” whenever I was with the horses. Apparently they had lots more to teach me than I'd ever have to teach them!

Spending time just hanging with the horses became as valuable to me as riding. They were both such interesting, different characters. The more I hung out with them, the more aware I became of what kinds of emotions, thoughts (storylines, good and bad), and energy I was carrying around and putting out; the horses gave me clear and immediate feedback: If I was calm, relaxed, open, happy to engage, so were they, in spades. If I was tense or bitchy, they wanted to keep their distance. Even if at first I didn't understand why they were being standoffish, after a few minutes of observing their behavior and mine with curiosity and openness, I'd see what I was doing or feeling that had set them off. Then I could explore ways to shift whatever was going on in me that was triggering the negative “reflection” I saw mirrored by the horses. I learned that the more I could quiet my inner chatter and remain curious and aware, the more each horse would remain similarly curious and calm, allowing me to observe and experience his unique ways of responding to what was happening between us and around us; to what was happening NOW. Sometimes I even felt like a real member of my little herd (hopefully, an increasingly trustworthy leader whose company they enjoyed).

I wanted to get better at this listening, sensing awareness, this trying to tune into whatever the horses were tuning into with their huge, alert, mysterious, socially adept, horsey ways of knowing. In 2005, I lucked into a chance to have a 3-day clinic at my place taught by Kathleen Barry Ingram, the counselor who'd worked for years with Linda Kohanov on programs they called “Equine Experiential Learning.” I became very interested in the whole subject of horse-guided experiential learning; particularly the kind of learning that could lead to positive personal growth. So along with books about horses, I began reading books about human cognition and behavior, autism and mental health, somatics, spiritual growth, energy practices (like aikido). I invited Tela O'Donnell, who was working at the Independent Living Center, and Juliana Hepp, who was working with the Pride program, to bring their “clients” over so they could spend time with my horses (I was now up to three) while we observed and learned from the

interactions. I discovered a kindred spirit in Anita DeCreft, whom I'd originally met at the Barb Apple clinic at Shirley's. We began reading the same books and talking for hours about what we read and how it related to being with and learning from horses (and Anita began doing wonderful bodywork on the horses). I could see that the horses were opening doors to new ways of being present and aware, that they were helping me discover a wider range of choices when responding to day-to-day stuff—big and small, good and not-so-good.

Then I discovered that Ariana Strozzi teaches a certification course in "Equine Guided Education" (EGE) at her Skyhorse Ranch north of San Francisco. Sure taking the course meant heading "Outside"—twice, once in January and again in July. And sure it cost a chunk of change, but I had friends in Sebastopol with whom I could stay, and I could tack on a visit to my in-laws as part of the trips. I knew taking this course was something that would really augment in big ways what the horses were trying to teach, so I took the plunge.

The course was astounding. I'm still processing what I learned. In fact, I look forward to processing what I learned (and continue learning) for years to come. Next summer I plan to start offering sessions in what I like to call "egsalad" (for equine-guided self awareness learning and discovery). My horses have so much to share (I'm now up to four, one of whom is blind), and for the first time, the whole gang is staying here for the winter.

Who knew horses could open such interesting doors just by ambling on ahead? Thank you, dear horses, I'm following right behind. Maybe some of you will also want occasionally to amble along with my horses as they give you feedback about yourself while I facilitate the process. If your curiosity is piqued or you have questions, feel free to call me at 235-4212 (and I should have an EGsalad website up in the next few months). Or visit the website of the Equine Guided Education Association (www.equineguidededucation.org) to learn more about what EGE is and what it might offer you.



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## United States Pony Club in HOMER

*submitted by Lyn Patton*

**USPC is unique** because its educational programs place equal emphasis on the teaching of riding skills, horse-care fundamentals, and team participation with sportsmanship. From the moment youth join USPC until they graduate, they are part of a broad network of activities and educational programs that promote the health and safety of both horse and rider.



USPC is dedicated to developing knowledgeable, competent, responsible, and caring horsemen.

This year Kachemak Pony Club had 21 members, and was very active in and out of Homer.



We started out this year with the knowledge that we would be hosting our region wide Quiz 2009 in Homer. Quiz is a horseless rally. It is a competition of horse management and knowledge. This consists of 6 statewide Pony Club groups. We were all a little scared, but thought we could pull it off. We utilized our local group of Horse Masters for their



knowledge and skill, and they helped put it together and pulled it off with flying colors.

Redoubt tried foiling our great plans and tried to snuff out Quiz all together, but we persisted and hosted an awesome Quiz 2009. We did not have any turn out from Fairbanks because of the Volcano, but all went great.

Some one donated a lot of used tack to our little Pony Club. Cass Crandall toted it all home from Seattle. That could not have been an easy job. The kids went to Patton's house for a tack cleaning party. They got it all ready to sell at a tack swap in Ninilchik.

Then we went to CHP for the spring clean up "party". It stunk! I don't mean it was bad, I mean it really literally STUNK. Was something dead in the weeds? We never found out what that horrible smell was but we worked through it and got the fence scraped, painted & up. The jump's scraped, painted and ready for another year of use. I believe we are the biggest user of Cottonwood Horse Park, therefore we feel a large responsibility for helping with the up keep.



Many of us traveled north to Nikiski to take part in a vaulting clinic with Nathan Horsman. It was great fun, and I think a few kids were bitten by the "vaulting" bug.

Sydney Webb was our AWESOME Spring camp coordinator. She arranged for Christina Hoffman an "A" Pony Clubber from North Carolina & Amanda Thompson a "B" rated Pony Clubber from Georgia to come and give the Horse Master's and Pony Clubbers a weeklong clinic each. This year we opened up the Horse Masters clinic to other adults that wanted the instruction. It helped reduced the cost for kids greatly.

In between the Adult camp and the Kids camp there was a horse show at Cottonwood Horse Park. Pony Club offered pony rides in the round pen, helped run the concession stand, ran the announcing, and helped with ribbons. We gave all the monies collected to KBEA to help with the land payment.



Okay, after Horse Masters Camp, Horse Show, and PC Spring camp we had a break for *FOUR DAYS* then it was off to Anchorage for Rally 2009. Rally this year was a 1-day Dressage Rally, 1-day Show Jumping Clinic and a 1-day Show jumping Rally. We set off for Rally with



12 horses and 15 competitors. Consisting of 3 5-person teams. Every team did Awesome! I am truly amazed every year that we make it there and back without any breakdowns or problems, but I am truly thankful that we do.



Things slowed down a bit after Rally, Thank goodness.

We continued our lessons with Leslie Whip & Shelly Walker. We even were able to get a Mounted Games day in once or twice. Several kids started working on preparing for their fall ratings. Shelly Walker did our fall ratings clinic. She is an "A" graduate PC'er, who lives in Seward. We are so lucky to have her, although I wish she were closer.

The obstacle course at Sue Robinson's beautiful covered arena was a big success for us and for our horses.

Cass Crandall hosted the Harvest party and membership renewal at her house. Morgan Kelly was the winner of the best horse & rider costume. It was Awesome! We even got a few new members.



**The Pony Club mission is "to provide a program for youth that teaches riding, mounted sports, and the care of horses and ponies, thereby developing responsibility, moral judgment, leadership, and self-confidence."**

For more information on USPC you can go on line to [www.ponyclub.org](http://www.ponyclub.org)

Our local contact is Kachemak Pony Club's District Commissioner Lyn Patton 235-1329

## **Thought you were too old for Pony Club?**

*submitted by Lyn Patton*



### ***Check out the USPC Horsemasters Program for Adult Volunteers!***

The Horsemasters Program is designed to teach interested adults about Pony Club and to help increase our valued Pony Club volunteer base. All adults are welcome, whether or not they have prior equine experience.

While some activities are geared toward “beginner” riders, we welcome more experienced and highly skilled adults and Pony Club alumni as well! Members of Horsemasters Groups become Corporate Members of USPC, and Friends or Sponsors (at the discretion of the District Commissioner) of the club, center or region.

The USPC Horsemasters Program for Adult volunteers affords the opportunity for adults to experience many of the same benefits that Pony Club youth members receive: the chance to learn from our excellent curriculum, an opportunity to be part of a “team” of likeminded individuals wanting to work together, and a venue to enjoy a horse. Horsemasters follow the USPC curriculum in an adult-friendly format, which allows adults to explore areas of interest and customize their own program of study to meet their individual needs. The Horsemasters Program does not have Pony Club ratings as such, instead, it affords participants a way to measure their progression with an evaluation process of checking off areas studied, practiced and proficiency acquired. We hope all your members will have a good time and hone their skills on both Horse Management and riding, as well as learn more about Pony Club.

USPC Horsemasters Program for Adult Volunteers

<http://www.ponyclub.org>

for more information proceed to the “forms” page,  
and select “H” for “Horsemasters Program”

The United States Pony Clubs, Inc.

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## Summer fun at Meadowview Equestrian Center, Maine

by *Shishana Rourke*

Summer 2008 - I started dreaming about taking my talent away from home to actually experience riding at a stable. I must have contacted over fifty stables and not one was what I wanted. So I pushed the thought aside and decided to stay home so that I could focus on training my colt.

Spring 2009 - My family received some bad news. My grandfather, who had leukemia, had gotten worse and was registered into the hospital where he stayed for quite sometime, so my family planned a trip to go visit Maine in the summer. Before we left my mother surprised me with the information that she had found a riding center that was only a ten-minute drive from my grandparents. We quickly got in touch with the stable and figured out the details. I spent hours talking to the stable owner, Tamara, about what I would be doing for her at Meadowview Equestrian Center.

June 28 - We left Homer for Maine. We flew on a red eye flight and arrived in Maine late on the 29<sup>th</sup>. The next day I was up at the crack of 11:00 and ready to go muck stalls.

As soon as we drove into view of the stable I was in awe. It had acres of pasture with two large barns, an outdoor and a HUGE indoor arena. I was out of the car before it was even parked. My dad and I walked into the barn and found Tamara, who then gave us the grand tour. There were 25 horses spread between two barns. Most of the horses were high-class English trained animals whose specialties spanned from international competition in cross-country to the local circuits in level 4 dressage.

There were three instructors who worked for the center. They taught jumping, beginner and dressage lessons. We entered the smaller barn that was mainly reserved for the lesson horses and met the horse that I would be able to ride. I was analyzed my first day but after that I was on my own. Instead of cleaning stalls and doing other barn chores I was told that I would be riding and training horses for the barn. I was assigned two but often handled more.

The first horse I rode was named Rocky. He was a 16.1 hh Morgan-Standard bred, with a beautiful dark bay color. He was a fun ride but had a hard past that he couldn't quite shake. He was started early and trained on barrel racing. I personally cannot see how anyone would feel safe galloping this horse around barrels. He needed the whole arena just to canter! I started him with a bunch of circles and didn't stop until he could go around something and not stop until he straightened up and walked with his hooves under him. Over time I was able to trot him around things and not feel like my life was in danger. My last day with Rocky I took him on a trail ride and I let him run as much as he wanted.

I didn't meet the cutest pony in the world until I had been at the barn for several days. Gulliver was his name and mischief was definitely his. This little pony was a six year old sorrel Haflinger/Welsh. The cutest thing about him was his mane, which was a frizzy Afro that stuck out every which way. He nickered hello before he tried to escape by me out the stall door. His playful personality made it hard for anyone to get mad at him but he was definitely spoiled. I spent most of my time with Gulliver leading him around and teaching him to lead properly, not run over people, and to keep his mouth to himself. After an hour of fighting with this headstrong pony we both needed a rest. After a few days in consistent training I was satisfied with his leading and so I moved on to free lunging and lunging on line, which he mastered fairly quickly. I also taught him how to lunge over jumps and back on line and even back over little jumps. Finally I decided to try to bit and saddle him up. He could have cared less about the saddle but the bit was a whole different story. He would toss his head and weave it back and forth trying to keep the bit from going in his mouth. The day that he accepted the bit without a fuss was the day that I sat on him.

Now my favorite horse was also the most expensive horse at the barn, who'd of thought right? Priced at thousands of dollars, Taz was owned by a nice couple that competed at an international level. This white steed was imported from New Zealand and had been trained for Three Day Event. He was some sort of warm blood and loved to go. The first day I saw him I was in love. It wasn't just his looks and training that was amazing but also his personality. He was a big goofball who loved to play and mess around. Everyday I helped with turn out I made sure that I was the one to grab his lead. A few days before I left to come home his owner, Pat, asked me if I wanted to ride him. I almost fainted. I was in complete heaven as I rode Taz. He was powerful and graceful and loved to please. I rode him in the arena before Pat opened the side door to the arena and let me take him on a trail ride through the fields.

The following day, my final day, I rode Taz again. I took him to the outdoor arena where I got to test out his dressage moves and moving over ground poles. He was so amazing I never wanted to stop. As my dream ride was coming to a close I let Taz carry me through a jumping course, which of course was incredible. I can honestly say I didn't know much about jumping, but this horse made me feel like a pro!

At the end of my last day, as I put my last mount away, I was offered something too good to refuse. I was offered full-time job training and riding horses for Meadowview. I know moving away from my home, Homer and my family would be a big step but with the dreams I have for my future I think that my decision is completely obvious.

## ***Top 10 Exercises to Become a Better Equestrian***

*submitted by Leah Jenkin*

***They say it takes seven falls to make a rider. But there's a lot more to it than that. Check out this list of 10 simple exercises that will help you become a better equestrian.***

10. Drop a heavy steel object on your foot. Don't pick it up right away. Shout, "Get off, Stupid, GET OFF!"
9. Leap out of a moving vehicle and practice "relaxing into the fall." Roll lithely into a ball and spring to your feet.
8. Learn to grab your checkbook out of your purse and write out a \$1000 check without even looking down.
7. Jog long distances carrying a halter and a carrot. Go ahead and tell the neighbors what you are doing- they might as well know now.
6. Affix a pair of reins to a moving freight train and practice pulling to a halt. Smile as if you are having fun.
5. Hone your fibbing skills: "See, moving hay bales is FUN!" and "No, really, I'm glad your lucky performance and multimillion dollar horse won the blue ribbon. I am just thankful that my hard work and actual ability won me second place."
3. Borrow the US Army's slogan: Be All That You Can Be -- bitten, thrown, kicked, slimed, trampled, frozen...
2. Lie face down in a puddle of mud in your most expensive riding clothes and repeat to yourself, "This is a learning experience, this is a learning experience, this is..."
1. The number one exercise to become a better equestrian is ***MARRY MONEY!***

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### Winter Weather What about the Horse?

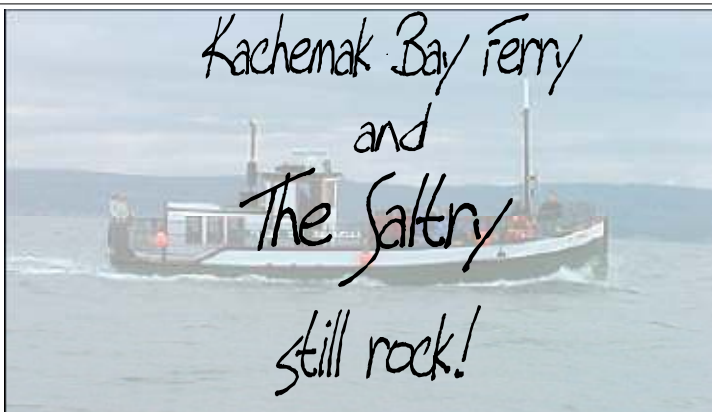
Take Good Care! Jim Hamilton, DVM

There are several "extra" considerations when it comes to your horse's well being/survival during very cold winter weather. It is important to take special precautions because it is much easier (and cheaper) to think ahead than react after the fact. The age of the horse, does he normally live in or out, has he been clipped, are there automatic waterers or buckets... all factor into the winter equation.

When you go to feed the horse on that ever-so-cold day, keep in mind that a large portion of the energy that is consumed will go to heating the body so; a higher dietary energy content is important. Another consideration is adequate water consumption. Studies have shown that if the water is warmed up, the amount consumed by the horse is much higher. Therefore, work several water changes into the schedule to promote more drinking. Any horse vet will tell you that most colic's during the winter are impaction/constipation colic's which, in large part, are due to poor water intake - a little extra labor now is much cheaper than the vet bill later!

If your horse lives out a lot, then construction of a run-in shed (wind break) should be top priority. During heavy snow, the shed provides the only dry place in which to sleep - make sure to find a level spot in the field and face the opening to the south for maximum sun. The shed is a good place to feed and, if designed with a gate across the open side, you can close the animal in on the worst of days.

There are many horse owners who boast of their animal's "thick skin", their amazing tolerance of a frigid environment. One can only wonder how that judgment is made. Hopefully the criteria are something other than survival!



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Reservations are required 296-2223

## Kachemak Bay Equestrians looking back at the 2009 Events

*This'll give you an idea of what is available for Members & who to contact if you are interested in 2010!*

March	Pony Club Quiz – Statewide Rally	Jackie Eisenberg 235-0192
April	Cowboy Poetry/Alice's Champagne Palace Fundraiser	Tim Quinn 299-2780
April	Statewide 4-H Horse Bowl	Shirley Schollenberg 398-7665
May	Potluck & Work Day @ Cottonwood Horse Park	Roberta Highland 235-8214
May	Annual Chili Cook Off (pony rides, demonstrations)	Jackie Eisenberg 235-0192
May	Senior Horse Camp – Ninilchik Fairgrounds	Shirley Schollenberg 398-7665
May	Junior Horse Camp – Ninilchik Fairgrounds	Shirley Schollenberg 398-7665
June	Wednesdays Western/English lessons Fundraiser CHP	Donna Richards 226-2256
June	Horse Masters Camp @ Cottonwood Horse Park	Cass Crandall 235-3433
June	Ridge Riders 4-H Club rides @ Cottonwood Horse Park	Donna Richards 226-2256
June	Pony Club Camp @ Cottonwood Horse Park	Cass Crandall 235-3433
June	1 <sup>st</sup> Peninsula Fun Series Horse Show @ CHP	Donna Richards 226-2256
June	Trail Ride Extraordinaire	Shirley Schollenberg 398-7665
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	KBEA rides in Homer parade	Roberta Highland 235-8214
July	Peninsula Fun Series Horse Show – SEA arena Soldotna	Kristie Sellers 260-1944
August	Peninsula Fun Series Horse Show – Ninilchik Fairgrounds	Shirley Schollenberg 398-7665
August	Barry Cox Clinic @ Cottonwood Horse Park	Shirley Schollenberg 398-7665

Looking toward 2010 - Butch Rieger, one of the developers of the Stone Step Lake subdivision, offered the property for a sponsored KBEA ride next summer. The area is beautiful, and there's also quite a nice, doable-with-horses, public trail easement down to the beach from the subdivision. KBEA members can look forward to a lovely sponsored ride next season!

*There are also plenty of group trail ride opportunities, lessons, learning opportunities, Horse Masters, Pony Club, Unstable Vices, etc. and just fun hanging out with like-minded people. Join the gang and have some horse fun with us next year!*

*Log on to [www.kbayequestrian.org](http://www.kbayequestrian.org) to download a membership application ~ renew or invite a friend to join. Your continued support is appreciated!*

## **The Alaska State Farriers Association: 27 years of providing hoof care and continuing education**

*To be printed in Alaska Horse Journal, December issue – submitted to KBEA by Tim Quinn*

Some of us are fascinated by the history of this great State we live in. By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century automobiles were still very limited in Alaska. Most travel in the Interior was powered by sled dogs or horse drawn sleigh, which hauled supplies, mail and travelers from ports such as Valdez in to the towns of the Interior. The Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers were major thoroughfares with several dozen steam ships and barges moving supplies upriver daily during the height of the gold rush. Oxen and horses were often brought on these vessels to pull the large boats off of gravel bars when they ran aground and some of their hand forged shoes can still be found along the rivers at abandoned roadhouses today. Horses also played a vital role when the U.S. Military was contracted by the Department of the Interior to map the Alaskan Territory.

The equine community in Alaska has evolved into very well bred horses and extremely competent riders competing at national levels in a variety of disciplines. Blacksmiths and Farriers have also had to evolve to shoe horses for changing equine activities. From workhorses on the farm or pulling sleighs, changes in competition rules, expectations of riders, trainers and competition judges, to product availability and advances in equine pathology. Sharing information, honing skills, continuing education, professionalism, and the commitment to the welfare of the horse are very important aspects of today's horseshoer.

The mission of the American Farriers Association is: to further the professional development of farriers, to provide leadership and resources for the benefit of the farrier industry, and to improve the welfare of the horse through continuing farrier education.

The AFA was formed in 1971, and in 1980 began a nationwide standardized certification program, which has become internationally recognized.

In June 1996 the first issue of the Alaska Horse Journal was published. For those of you who save everything, two articles can be found in the first issue discussing the goals of the AFA and the history of the ASFA for those that don't I have included an excerpt.

“There was a time in the seventies when few farriers in Alaska were acquainted other than having heard the name of their competitor, but not having a face to put with the name. In 1982, a few local farriers in south central decided to form the Alaska State Farriers Association and became the 38<sup>th</sup> chapter of the AFA. In 1984 the ASFA hosted its first annual clinic with Scott Simpson, a world-renowned farrier and educator. Twelve farriers from around the State attended the two-day clinic in Palmer and lifelong friendships were formed.

The ASFA has had an annual clinic since that first one. This summer will mark its 27<sup>th</sup> annual clinic. Alaskans benefit from their location. About anyone who's never been to Alaska wants to see it. The farriers association has gotten top notched clinicians, including three high point North American farrier/blacksmith competition winners.

The main purpose of the ASFA was to band together and pool resources and efforts for world-class farrier clinics, which spearheaded perhaps the main element of the organization, education. It has also grown into bettering communications between farriers and all people in the equine trade.

Another important function of the ASFA is mutual support amongst its members. It's not uncommon to see farriers working together today. A big change from years ago.

Competitions provide the dual function of educating and increasing skills and (perhaps more important to some participants) the chance to have fun. It's a good excuse to get people together.

Our membership has always been small compared to many of the chapters in the lower forty-eight. We always welcome new members and are open to hosting meetings and clinics outside of the Anchorage/Mat-su area if sufficient membership resides on the Peninsula or Fairbanks area. We highly encourage horse owners to seek information and education as it pertains to hoof care, trimming and horseshoeing. For 2010, the ASFA will be available on request for demonstrations and group discussions on hoof care and shoeing topics.

<http://www.americanfarriers.org/> Marc Petersen, ASFA, AFA Certified Journeyman Farrier

Marc Petersen, Blackhawk Farrier Service, AFA, Cert. Journeyman Farrier, 907-982-1225  
Heidi Larrabee, President Alaska State Farriers Association, 907-746-1966



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### ***One Dozen Tips & Tricks***

*LongRidersGear.com*

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**Clean & Clear for Winter** - Dust and debris is bad for us and our equines, so clear it out before poor weather hits. Sweep off walls, beams, stalls, and aisles in preparation for being closed up for most of the winter. Take it a step further and wash out those feed and water buckets, disinfecting them with a tablespoon of bleach in a full bucket.

**Prevent Ice Hazards** - Fill in holes and hollows in front of gates and doors where water might sit and turn into icy hazard.

**Easy Winter Buckets** - Rubber buckets are easier to knock the ice out of when water freezes, unlike plastic buckets, which can crack or shatter. Rubber buckets can have a higher initial cost but they may fair better through harsh winters.

**Prevent Snowball Feet** - If snow packs into your horse's hooves try smearing the bottom with petroleum jelly.

**Sparkling White** - Baby powder will make white socks truly white and won't attract dust like some other methods.

**Suck it Up!** - Not only will grooming go faster with a vacuum, but your horse will be cleaner. And that wet/dry shop vac you probably already own will do the job! It may take a few days to accustom your steed to the racket, but when you do you'll have a racket-proof horse and a lightening-quick grooming routine pared down to a quick curry and a five-minute vacuum treatment.

**Consider the Gutter & Rain Barrel** - Gutters and downspouts can direct the torrent of rain that comes off barn roofs away from entryways lessening water, ice and mud buildup. An average 1,000 sq. ft. roof will produce over 600 gallons of water from one inch of rain! Why not install a rain barrel to conserve some of that water?

**Beeswax Wonder** - Beeswax softens leather! It also adds a great new shine to boots.

**Sparkling Like New** - Put your bits and spurs in the dishwasher to get them really clean! Once sparkling, be sure to dunk the bit in water immediately after each use to keep it that way.

**Quick Picking** - Hoof picks are cheap. Always use a sharp one to remove rocks and debris, and replace the pick when it no longer does the job easily.

**Tarnish Free** - Mix vinegar and salt to clean brass or copper harness, saddle, or bridle fittings. About 1 tsp salt to 1 cup vinegar usually does the trick. Rub it on and then wipe off with a damp cloth, or soak the item in a jar of the mixture, then rinse it off well. Vinegar alone will also remove rust residue from metal objects.

**Coconut Oil Wonder** - To condition your horse's tail, just wash, slather some coconut oil on, braid it loosely and cover it in a tail bag. It works absolute wonders, plus, as an added bonus your horse's tail will smell like Hawaii.

# CLASSIFIED ADS



Members can place a classified ad OR a business ad for FREE here! Take advantage!  
~ 2010 KBEA Directory ~ you may put a business ad in the directory for as little as \$25! ~  
Contact me with info: Sandy Arndt [arndtfarm@gmail.com](mailto:arndtfarm@gmail.com) or [kbayea@gmail.com](mailto:kbayea@gmail.com)

## ~ Horse for Sale ~

I have an 11 year old Morgan quarter horse, Token, that was my daughters. Amelia has gone off to college and I thought I would be able to ride and take care of him myself. Well, the college bills are mounting and my time is shorter than ever. In the last 2 years he has only been ridden a handful of times. Token has been living with Renee Eidem, and loves it there. He is a healthy horse, although quite tubby right now, and what I would call an easy keeper. Ideally, I am looking for someone to share him with us, although I would consider selling him. Amelia did Pony Club up to C level with Token, it was a challenge for them both, and I would say he is an excellent trail horse. Interested in talking about Token? call 299-0445 or 235-5970. Thanks, Sarah Robertson

## ~ English Saddle for Sale ~

I have a Bates Caprilli All Purpose 16" English saddle with the Caire System for sale. This saddle sells for \$1500 new without stirrups. I will sell it with all the Caire System gullet sizes, stirrups and leathers for \$900. Call 299-0445 or 235-5970 (Sarah)

## ~ English Show Coats ~

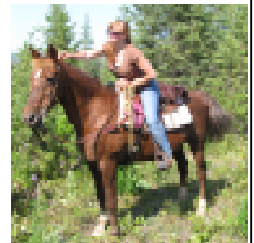
Brand -new English style show coat: black color, ladies size 12R \* purchased for a pony club rating but was the wrong color for the rating requirements, originally \$100, asking \$50 \* ~ ALSO~ 2 English style show coats, used for shows/pony club ratings only, like-new condition: hunter green color, one ladies size 12, one ladies size 14R) \* These may be European sizing or else run smaller than normal women's sizing because rider was a ladies size 6 at the time she was wearing these for shows/rating, asking \$30 each \* please call Shere or Nyssa Baechler at 235-7084

## ~ English Saddle for Sale ~

16" Wintec synthetic English saddle, great condition. Adjustable tree. \* For sale with stirrup leathers and safety stirrups (\$400) \* If interested, please call Shere or Nyssa Baechler at 235-7084

## ~ Horse for Sale ~

Very rideable, 26 years young Registered Saddlebred mare. Easy going, no special diet, great starter horse. "Sweetie" is only \$500 to a good home. Currently boarding at "The Haven" by the Cottonwood Horse Park and may continue here for a nominal fee for the rest of the winter. Call for appointment to come see (and ride her) at 235-8567 and ask for Renee Eidem.



## ~ Trailer for Sale ~

Easy to pull, bumper pull 4-horse stock trailer with hay manger. We've even put in a new floor! It's easy to load your horses into this trailer with the convenient side door (escape hatch) in the front. \$2,500 obo please call 235-1329 Tom or Lyn Patton

## ~ Trailers for Sale ~



1984 WW Gooseneck stock/horse trailer. Steel. 16 foot deck with mid divider and mats. Front escape door. Fits 4 full sized horses comfortably. Brakes and lights work fine. New floor three years ago. \$3000 Jeanie Fabich 299-3579

Older red 2 horse straight load trailer. Tack space under manger. Funky lights. No brakes, but it gets you down the road. Only \$900 Jeanie Fabich 299-3579



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# CLASSIFIED ADS

~ Misc For Sale ~

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2 hay nets, red & blue \_\_\_\_\_ \$5 for both

Halters

2 nylon halters w/ leads, adjustable, blue & black w/ red hearts \_\_\_\_\_ \$5 each

“Come Along” halter, NEVER USED! \_\_\_\_\_ \$5

1 Lounge Line \_\_\_\_\_ \$1

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Nearly new velvet show helmet, size 7 \_\_\_\_\_ \$85

Stirrups, leathers & pads \_\_\_\_\_ \$25

Fleece saddle pad \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

Hoof picks, mane comb & brushes, soaked and cleaned \_\_\_\_\_ \$5

English Reins \_\_\_\_\_ \$5

*Will take \$115 for all English tack (\$10 off)*

*Western Tack*

Leather tie-down, barely used \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

Smart Cinch, 34' \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

Training fork \_\_\_\_\_ \$2

*Will take \$40 for all Western tack (\$6 off)*

*Horse Books, fiction & Non-fiction*

9 “Black Stallion” books \_\_\_\_\_ .25 cents each;

“Drawing Horses” \_\_\_\_\_ \$2

“Getting Your First Horse” \_\_\_\_\_ \$5

“Pony Club Manual, D-Level” \_\_\_\_\_ \$5

Lucinda Green’s “Riding” \_\_\_\_\_ \$5

“Horse Watching” \_\_\_\_\_ \$2

3 Horse Training Guidebooks \_\_\_\_\_ \$1

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Overall Total: \$200.50

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Shishana @ haflinger\_horses@hotmail.com or 235-1222



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Contact Jackie Eisenberg      235-0192      to get yours!

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