

Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association

P.O. Box 2326 Loomis CA 95650

Volume 37 Issue 2

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Newsletter

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE by Liz Daffner

Howdy!

Thank you to all that participated in the LBHA Event survey that was sent out to members. The results are still coming in, but your answers confirmed the majority of our members prefer trail riding and participating in our popular arena obstacle days which we'll schedule again this year.

We've had some beautiful days this month and the lower trail at Sterling point is perfect besides a few puddles. LBHA Board members will be meeting soon to create our 2019 goals and you should have already received emails from our new e-Blasts system. If not, please go to our website and subscribe to our email list.

On a personal note, I'll be competing in an Extreme Cowboy Race Buckle Challenge held at Triple Crown Equestrian Center in Lincoln, CA on Feb 9th. The event is posted to facebook along with a list of obstacles! It's sure to be a fun days for spectators. Hopefully my pony Monte will find another gear!

Happy Trails!



Sterling Point



Liz Daffner

SUPPORTING LBHA HELPS SAVE AND MAINTAIN OUR TRAILS, THE ARENA AT THE PARK , TRAYLOR

2019 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

COMMITTEE HEADS

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Arena	Denise Howell	916-207-2543
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PLACER COUNTY AG COMMISSIONER

Joshua Huntsinger 530 889-7326

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Jason De Wall (Supervisor) 916 988-0205
 Paul Perez (trails maint super) 916 240-7198
 State Parks Dispatch 916 358-1300
 (Call above number for incidents in State Parks)



TRAYLOR RANCH NATURE RESERVE

If we have any extra work days, watch the Traylor Ranch Face Book page or your email.

If anyone sees any issues while out at the park, please let me know.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate reaching out to me.

Thanks everyone for your support!

Dave Faoro

TRNR Committee Chairman,
dave_lbha@faoro.us



*Do You like my Human?
 I trained her myself.*



LBHA General Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2019

The LBHA Meeting began at 6:31 pm. The main topic for the meeting was 2019 event planning based on survey results and feedback from members who were able to attend.

Robert Sydnor provided a trails update including a summary of a "Meet the Rangers" meeting he attended. Robert also notified the group regarding an upcoming meeting with the Placer County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, February 5th at the Placer County Administrative Building in Auburn at 10:00 AM. He stressed the need for Equestrians to be informed, vocal, and united in our efforts to preserve and expand the trails in our community.

Liz Daffner reviewed LBHA survey results on the television screen. The idea of LBHA members attending a Deercreek ride was discussed in detail. Along with many great ideas for meeting topics and arena events.

It was decided that LBHA will not hold a tack swap in 2019 based on the flat attendance of the previous 3 years.

An event calendar will be finalized by Liz Daffner and Publicity chair Laurene Davis.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm

Placer County Master Plan for all County Parks

There will be an important meeting of the Placer County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, February 5th at the Placer County Administrative Building in Auburn at 10 AM. We were not able to confirm this on the website: www.placer.ca.gov/bos/district5/macsnorth-auburn

Attend next meeting to learn more about Lenora and Clicker Training!

Lenora Pritchard has been involved with clicker training for many years. first with dogs and then for the last 8 years with horses, donkeys and mules. She lives in Auburn and manages BeHooved Hoof Care (<https://www.facebook.com/BeHooved-Hoof-Care-342396259860954/>) and Sacramento/Sierra Foothill Area Equine Positive Reinforcement (<https://www.facebook.com/SacramentoSierra-Foothill-Area-Equine-Positive-Reinforcement-509176609565498/>). Lenora is excited to be able to share her knowledge of Clicker Training.

...On Teaching Swagger

Courtesy of Rider, Writer, Farmer, Wife

The other day, in a rare moment of what people that don't own horse farms call "sitting down" between morning chores and afternoon hacks, I perused some of my favorite online equine-centric forums. As I've said before, I'm always interested in becoming a better horseman, and there is a wealth of knowledge out there that I am happy to absorb without bothering with trial and error myself. Often there is news of a sale on breeches, or a discussion of the veterinary treatment du jour, or some horse care issue that is debated to the point of the equestrian equivalent of a Twitter war.

Sometimes I come away with useful knowledge. Very rarely do I come away with an epiphany, but the other day I did just that. In a thread about absorbing knowledge from many riding disciplines, "NancyM" wrote:

"I apply a lot of what I learned in thirty years of working with racehorses to my basic horsemanship... Keeping things fun for the horse. Letting a horse be himself, express himself, have opinions. Working with the horse you have, not trying to force a horse into a cookie cutter mould."

I nodded along as I read. This is how I've approached my horses as well.

I continued reading:

"An old friend of mine from many years ago slapped her racehorse on the neck affectionately as he squealed at her in play... 'He likes himself' she told me with satisfaction. I like my horses to like themselves too. I like them to think that they are the fanciest horse they have seen all day."

This was the epiphany. I've never cared if a horse liked himself - I've never even thought about it in that context. I've cared if he's happy; if he's healthy and comfortable. I've cared if he likes me, or his job. It never occurred to me to want him to like...himself. What an epic fail on my part.

I am usually not a froofroo, anthropomorphizing, whispering horse guru. Still, I have learned over the past few years that overall health and performance are strongly correlated to a horse's general happiness and state of mind. When I acquired my four-year-old, 17.1HH, mostly-unbacked, freshly-imported warmblood last year it took about two days for me to realize that if he wasn't pleased I was either going to figure out how to make him happy, or I was going to the hospital. Although he had been largely untouched, a couple of attempts had been made to ride him in Europe, and judging by the first several times I got on him, they didn't go well. Although I technically ordered a horse that had been lightly started, he simply didn't take to the cookie-cutter training routine like most other horses do, and I realized that I didn't just have to train this horse - I had to retrain it.

Little known fact for those of you that have been following the Megatron saga from afar: I got on him the third day I had him, and I didn't get back on for two-and-a-half months. This horse had a level of fear that made him dangerous, and he internalized it in a way that made it impossible to predict. Throughout those terrifying fledgling weeks of training, I had incredible support from my husband who never once made me feel bad about importing a Decepticon sight-unseen, along with a bit of help from professionals and a lot of help from a really wise team-roper. The photos have yet to surface, but my first thirty rides were in a roping saddle in a small medical turnout. Surprise!!!

And you thought he was named Megatron because he's big...

(cont'd)

Once the riding became safe-ish, my trainer and I started working on trying to get Megatron to enjoy his job. While sensible, he is also sensitive. He will tolerate being pushed too hard, but he will remember it the next day. Sometimes this is good and we've taught him something. Sometimes it's bad and we've scared him, but the more we work together and the more he trusts me, the less I see of this fearful horse.

My trainer and I have spent months trying to figure out how hard to push him. The first three lessons I had with Greg were literally trying to get Megatron to trot with his ears forward so that he wasn't always so focused on his rider. That's it. My friend, Alia, acquired her young horse around the same time I got Megatron, and that same week that I was trotting oddly shaped "circles" and celebrating every time his ears flicked forward for a stride, she was jumping small courses on hers.

Some serious patience (and physical therapy) was required on my part, but we got through those initial stages of training. Because Megatron was so stressed by a rider, I spent a lot of time trying to make riding fun for him despite the fact that many of our adventures were terrifying for me. We went on trail rides, we jumped stuff, we went on lots of field trips, and then we took the entire winter off to decompress. I have spent hours upon hours of my life devising a tailor-made program to make this creature enjoy his. He is allowed to have opinions. He is allowed to say no. He is allowed to dictate the pace of his training. But never have I considered that he should like himself.

And how does one teach swagger, anyway?

I've had horses that are proud of themselves, but to be candid, they've all come that way. My husband's horse has a distinctly cocksure way of carrying himself when he knows he's done a good job. He likes himself. And no one is going to tell my retired gelding that he's not the fanciest horse in the neighborhood. No one. But Megatron isn't proud. Even when praised (abundantly and often) his response is simply more of the desired behavior. Please believe that I'm not complaining about that, but...he certainly doesn't have any swagger. In contrast, Alia's five year old is the equine Kanye West. They are both very talented despite being naturally inclined to be different so I rarely compare, but it does leave me wondering if I've missed an essential step in this process. I've done a great job of making Megatron confident in me, but I'm just not sure I've done a very good job making him confident in himself.

Am I anthropomorphizing? Sure, but if you're one of those people who thinks horses are organic robots that have no opinions you're probably no longer reading this anyway. So my new goal is to get this horse to like himself, and although he's not the extroverted type to squeal in excitement, I am fairly certain that as he learns, becomes confident in his job, and saves me from my amateur self a few thousand times, some semblance of pride will develop.

There were times last year when I thought this horse would never let me sit on him. But then he did. There were times when I thought he would simply never, ever have a right lead. But then he did. There were times when I thought he'd never be able to go out into a new ring and jump new fences cold, or change leads, or deal with the traffic at a horse show. But then he did.

So I have faith that someday Megatron will like himself as much as I like him, and I'll look back on this blog and say,

"But then he did."



9 TBs STILL AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION

You may have heard that Sammie's Friends recently rescued 21 Thoroughbred Horses from a ranch here in Grass Valley. Similar to the situation several years ago when they rescued 41 horses, you can imagine the challenge and task it is to find homes for so many of these beautiful creatures.

We are writing to you today to ask for your help. We still have 9 horses that need to find forever homes. They are all currently in foster care, but it is costly for the shelter to continue to care for them.

**Here are the 9 currently available registered Thoroughbred horses. The attached picture is Rhythm, winner of \$1.5 million, the sire of many of these horses.

1. Cloudy Skies Foal Date: 3/29/2005 Bay Mare (Unbroke)
3. Icicle Rhythm (Popsicle) Foal Date: 2007 Bay Mare (Unbroke)
5. Meitty Elegant Foal Date: 5/3/2005 Chestnut Mare (unsound for riding)
- 9 Rhythm'n Silk Foal Date: 4/29/2001 Chestnut Mare
15. My Cristal Foal Date: 1/18/1998 Bay Mare (Unbroke)
16. Silk Sheen Foal Date: 5/12/1997 Chestnut Mare
18. Stolen Kisses Foal Date: 4/23/1996 Bay Mare (unbroke Senior)
19. Jet Foal Date: 5/7/2009 Bay Gelding (Unbroke)
20. Sir Vic (Red) Foal Date: 3/23/2004 Chestnut Gelding (Broke, possible cattle/ranch/sport)

Here are several ways you can help...

**Would you consider adopting one (or more!) of these special horses?*

**Share this email with all of your horse loving family and friends. **

**Visit Sammie's Friends Horse page

<<https://sammiesfriends.org/adopt/horses.html>>

and share this on your social media page?

**DONATE to our Horse Fund to help us care for them until they get adopted!*(Click on the DONATE

<<https://sammiesfriends.org/donate/donate-funds-now.html>>

and be sure to write Horse Fund on the online donation form.)**

We are desperate to get the word out and find homes asap. Thank you for your continued support of our shelter. We can't rescue any animals without you!

If you are interested in adopting, please fill out the Pre-Adoption Questionnaire completely and be sure to include the HORSE # and HORSE NAME.

You can bring the questionnaire directly to the shelter or you can email to info@sammiesfriends.org (

The adoption fee for each horse is \$150.00.

Sammie's Friends
14647 McCourtney Road
Grass Valley, CA 95949
(530) 471-5041

MEMBERSHIP

Please renew your membership.

If you are not getting e-mails from LBHA, we may not have the correct e-mail or you are blocking LBHA. The Newsletter goes on line the first week of each month, so if you do not get a notice, just check the webpage and then get the correct e-mail to LBHA.

All Memberships NOW renew every January 1 so those of you that have memberships that expire in June have an extension to December 31st. Pay on line the easy way!

Being an LBHA Member is a great way to give back to our community.

We thank you in advance.

AD FEES For LBHA Members
(Non-Members add \$10 to below fees)

NEWSLETTER ADS Deadline is the 25th of the month
 ½ page: 1year \$60 Includes Business card on Website.
 ½ page: 6mos \$30 one time \$5 Full page one time \$10
 Business Card Ad per issue: \$10 / issue
 Business Card Ad/year: \$40/year includes card on Website

DIRECTORY ADS Deadline for Directory ads is March 1
 Full Page Ad: \$25
 ½ Page Ad: \$15
 Business Card Ad: \$10 - Free for **LBHA Business Members**

WEB ADS
 Business Card Ad – one year Members \$40
Free to Business Members
 Classified Ads- Free to Members

NOTE add \$10 to fee for Non-LBHA members



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**Loomis Basin
Equine Medical Center, Inc.**

Office Hours
Monday thru Saturday
8:00am - 6pm

Appointment Hours
Monday thru Saturday
9:00am - 5pm

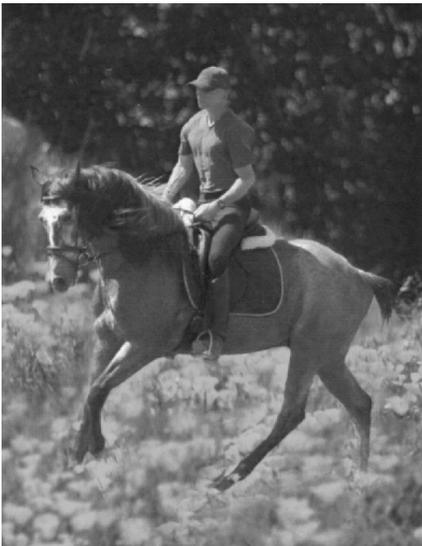
In-house & Ambulatory Emergency Services available 24 hours/7 days

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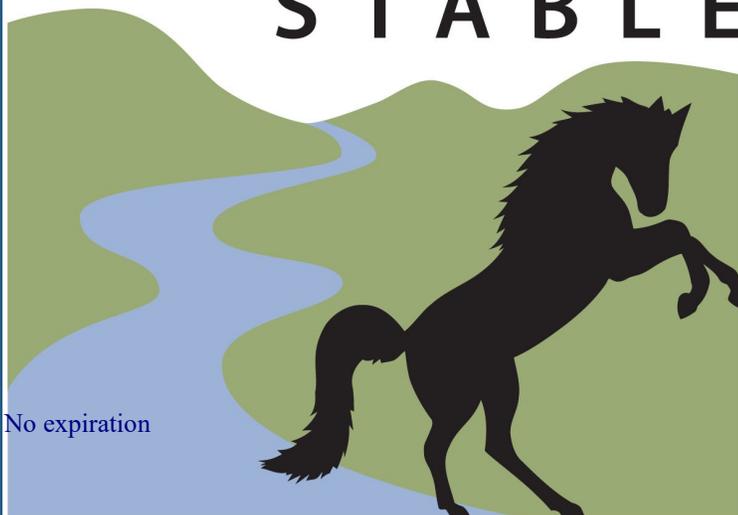
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Knicker Knob

STABLE



No expiration

LOOMIS, CALIFORNIA

Conveniently located near Horseshoe Bar Road and Auburn Folsom Road and within riding distance to the Folsom Lake trails. Knicker Knob has long been known in the Gold Country equestrian community for producing safe and knowledgeable horsemen.

Boarding/Lesson special: Boarders at Knicker Knob Stable can participate in free lessons every Friday 5:30–7pm during Daylight Savings Time. Non-boarders can trailer in for lessons for \$20 each. Lessons are taught by Terry Haney.

Boarding barn stalls | pipe corrals | pasture from \$305

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Next Meeting

February 19th Meeting

Round Table Pizza 6111 Horseshoe Bar Rd, Loomis, CA 95650

Eat 6:00 pm, Meeting 6:30-7:30 pm

Have you ever wondered what clicker training is? Equine clicker training is a relatively new method of training that is becoming popular with horse owners. This method of training is based on using positive reinforcement (food rewards in conjunction with a precisely timed audible "click") to teach the horse correct behavior.

Please see our Events Calendar on Website at www.lbha.us

Reminder!

LBHA has an electronic Membership form available on our website that let's you pay your renewals through paypal if you choose. Find it under the JOIN tab.

Arena

Please NO TRAILERS or HORSES on the asphalt parking lot. No barrels, poles or other equipment may be used in the arena. Small Orange cones allowed. Trainers must have an Arena Use form submitted annually as well as the proper insurance naming LBHA and Placer County as "Also Insureds." If Insurance is cancelled 2 times or more, the permit is no longer valid. Trainers MUST contact LBHA with the time and number of students that will be in class, 24 hrs before the lesson. (All Forms are on LBHA Website at LBHA.us)



From the Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association

ABOUT LBHA

The Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association founded in 1984 is a non-profit 501 (C) 3 information and awareness organization dedicated to the South Placer County Trails, Traylor Ranch, the Arena at the Loomis Basin Community Park and the Preservation of the Rural Lifestyle.

Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association

P.O. Box 2326
Loomis CA 95650

E-MAIL:
lbha@garlic.com

We're on the Web!

See us at:

Lbha.us

Get Info on

- Trails
- The Arena at the Park
- Meetings
- Clinics
- Traylor Ranch
- LBHA Horseshow

