

Moraga Horsemen's Association November 2015

Calendar of Events

December 20 – Christmas party at Shivani's

January 19 – MHA meeting at the Fend's



MHA Club Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 17th @ Karen's home

In attendance : Laura Fend, Lynn Miller, Gary Fend, Penny Sinder, Karen Bottiani, Corinne Dutra-Roberts, Colleen Brannon, Jenni Smith, Zette Thiery, Kristin Ojala, Gayle Jackson, Shivani Rajan, Linda Benson, Janice Greenberg, Mo Livermore, Ashley Tobin and Jim Waters

President's Report (Corinne on behalf of John)

Minutes were shared. No corrections. Gayle moved to accept, Lynn moved to second. All were in favor.

Vice President's Report (Corinne)

New Members!

- **Kelly Wilison Pinkston.** Kelly used to be a Moraga junior and still has her color guard outfit. She lived in Nevada and worked as a guidance counselor for 15 years, had her horses in her backyard there. Has been back in Moraga for a couple years and has one horse (noted they are more expensive to maintain than in Nevada) at Briones Horse Center. She misses having her horse in her backyard, not in small part due to the cost. Has been primarily doing ground work and occasional riding. Has some health concerns and doing therapy at barn with her horse has helped.
- **Peggy Rizzo.** Peggy is Kelly's neighbor and loves horses. She has been willingly mucking stalls and doing ground work to be around them. She's having her first adult riding lesson on Saturday! As a kid used to go to Buckeye ranch for lessons, but hasn't been around horses for most of her life and is excited about opportunity to get close to animals again. Feels that horses are her calling, despite being a "late bloomer". Hopes to someday get a horse, but wants to be sure she can make that commitment first.



Treasurer (Gary F.)

- General account = \$ 11,742.55
- Pasture account = \$ 25,123.42
- Ponies & Pumpkins balance is \$2,381
 - Still a few outstanding bills to be paid – pumpkins and groceries and t-shirts



Pasture (Laura F.)

The pasture has some little green sprouts so we're all excited, but the grass still is dismal. Moved horses into Reimer, but will need to move them again tomorrow because they are starving in there.

Have started horses moving in opposite rotation due to unruly behavior. Fends have been pleasantly surprised that the herd has been good about moving in the other direction.

Gary reports that the locks on the Reimer/Tharp gate are all frozen. Before he moves the horses, he's going to have to solve for it one way or another. The gate there seems to be problematic, locks don't last long. Karen suggested we just stop locking it all together.

General elation and happy sentiments expressed around the rain and that it will keep going.

Trails look good – Fends rode today and they were in good shape.

Discussion about open spaces in the pasture. Technically we have 16 spaces and 14 are "taken" but there are fewer than a dozen horses currently in the pasture. In theory there are two open spots. A reasonable amount of rain might mean we could add

another one or two. If things turned south, last one in is first one out.

Old Business (all)

Trail Rides

Pelican Inn ride was cancelled due to rain.

Christmas Party

December 20th, 6 PM at Shivani's house. She will shortly e-mail out directions.

Raffle : reminder to bring items that your friends might want to carry away – should be new or very slightly used – and an ask to focus on fewer but better pieces of junk

Silent auction: nicer donations will be offered in a silent auction prior to the raffle

- We thought we'd try to get a donation from Dover – Jenni will check

Potluck : please bring vegetarian items

Parking : somewhat tricky, Shivani will send details and instructions closer to the date but carpooling is strongly recommended

New Business (all)

Nominating committee

Karen, Shivani, Laura, Gary, and Gayle participated. Pizza was served.

Nominations as follows;

- President – Corinne
- VP – Jenni
- Treasurer - Gary
- Secretary – Rachel
- Sargent at arms – Gayle
- Members at large – Kristin, Jamie

Voting on this slate will happen at the January meeting. Details will be in the newsletter.

If anyone has their heart set on being on the board (e.g., serving as Treasurer), you can nominate yourself from the floor at that meeting.

Then partying will ensue at the installation dinner.

Absentee Member Participation

Linda Osman sent a nice e-mail - specifically about P&P - pointing out that there are loyal members who want to support but can't be here. She asked if there was some way that people who don't live locally could be included. We brainstormed a bit.



Poison Oak lecture

At Orinda library on November 18th. Garden Room at 7:30 PM. Liz Strauss from Orinda Horsemen notified us. Very little enthusiasm was expressed.

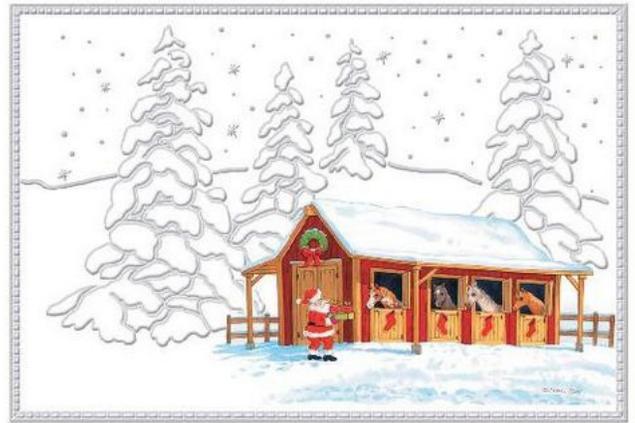
Tentative Calendar for 2016

- February: Installation Dinner 2/8 Monday
- May: Breakfast ride 5/7 Saturday w/play day after
- June: Clinic w/Jerry Tindal 6/24-26, maybe w/Xenophon too
- August: Camping at Jack Brooks, date TBD
- October: P&P Sunday 10/16

Ride on Mt. Diablo

Went well, was slower than molasses. Was really pretty, but short.

Shivani moved that we adjourn, Karen seconded that motion. Club approved.



Rye Hay For Sale

Xenophon has 30 tons of hay that was donated to the program, but cannot use most of it. They are selling it for \$90 per ton. If interested, call Mari at 925-212-8788