



Palos  
Verdes  
Peninsula  
Horsemens  
Association

# ·D·I·S·P·A·T·C·H·

Volume XXIV Issue V

Pam Turner, Editor

May 2009

## MUSIC, SINGING AND POETRY AT THE CAMPFIRE PIT MAY 21- 7PM AT THE EMPTY SADDLE CLUB

Campfires, snacks and cowboy music! This promises to be a really great time of singing, eating and fellowship with like-minded horse folk. So, bring your guitars, harmonicas, voices, etc. and join us. There may even be a cowboy or cowgirl poet or two who would be willing to share with us. We had a great time at last September's musical gathering. Oh yes, did I mention there will be treats for those who attend? Maybe even a raffle...hmmm.... This would also be a good opportunity to bring a non-member friend to get acquainted with us and, hopefully, join us in our mission to preserve the trails and promote good horse-keeping on the Peninsula!

*See ya there!!!!*

*Pam Turner*

*Dispatch Editor*



## Your Senior Horse – presented by Dr. James Giacomuzzi

By Erin Ryan

At our April general meeting we were fortunate to have as our guest speaker veterinarian James (Dr. Jimmy) Giacomuzzi. He began the evening by addressing why it is that some horses at 15 look aged and others at 30 look fabulous. Chances are that the older horse is ridden often, actually has a purpose, along with good teeth, a good diet and a large stall/corral that allowed for self exercise. Placing food at one end of the horses' enclosure with the water at the other makes that horse walk between the two. Good blood flow through exercise is important. An interesting point is that blood flows in the leg when it is off the ground. Another important component is proper and timely dental attention. Make sure to get your horse's teeth done regularly. Although you would not want over floating since some grinding material needs to be left on the teeth for proper chewing. Ignoring teeth can cause other problems in the body. Dr. Jimmy related that he fixed a stifle problem by fixing a problem with the teeth. If your horse is getting plenty hay but still is thin, maybe he is having trouble chewing. Good dental maintenance is especially important for the older horse. For horses with poor or missing teeth, you may need to feed short hays, perhaps pellets, that can be easier to chew. Also feeding low to the ground can alleviate some respiratory problems.

The owner needs to be careful on what they will allow their older horse to do. Just because the horse is feeling better than average one morning does not mean let him go into the turnout and run around madly. The better your horse feels the more he will want to be active. An older horse could unknowingly injure himself in such a situation. So supervision when playing is recommended.

As a horse ages, it is quite possible that lameness eventually comes into the picture. The first thing needed is to find out where he is sore. There are so many places that can create lameness. Is it in the feet, fetlocks, stifles, ligaments or hips, etc.? The more accurate the diagnosis, the more specific the treatment can be. Find the proper supplements and get the best shoeing job for that particular ailment. Some problems can be breed specific. For instance, Paso Finos can have their suspensory ligaments become degenerative in later years. There is treatment, hoof trimming and shoeing

techniques for that condition which is specific to that breed. Other breeds can have different problems.

An older horse may need "corrective" shoeing due to navicular disease, ringbone, hock problems, shoulder alignment and a host of other problems. Too long a toe is not a good thing. There are so many options in this area including bar shoes, packing and pads and keeping the toes short. Sometimes it is necessary to have an MRI done to find out what specifically is ailing your horse if nothing is showing on x-rays or ultra sound and the horse is having leg problems. Paperwork was distributed outlining supplements that can aid the older horse. Some of which are listed below:

### Joint Stiffness

**LubriSyn:** (800)901-8495, Increases joint lubrication; \$300/gallon.

**MSM:** local feed stores. Better flexing in the joints. With provided Aspirin, give two tablespoons MSM daily for two weeks, then one tablespoon daily thereafter. Aspirin - one tablespoon every three days forever.

**Platinum Performance:** (305) 688-1731. Has many beneficial things in it, very complete. Feed four times the normal dosage for the first 30 days. After the first 30 days, use as directed.

[www.platinumvet.com](http://www.platinumvet.com)

**Corn Oil & Rice Bran:** local feed stores. High fat diets are very beneficial. One cap full of corn oil daily is a must in order to put some fat in their diet. Rice bran, Natural Glow or Satin Sheen, feed as directed.

### Performance Horses:

**Adequan & Legend:** (310) 541-2441 for ordering information- order two boxes of each. For the first two weeks give two bottles in the muscle each week. For the next three weeks, give one bottle in the muscle. Thereafter, give one bottle each time the horse is shod. All performance horses should be on this plus aspirin, to increase the blood flow. Horses recover quicker and stay sound longer.

### Keep weight up:

**Chaffhaye** 949-300-3255 or visit the website to find out more about this product and a dealer near you. [www.chaffhaye.com](http://www.chaffhaye.com)

### Navicular:

**Tildren:** a new drug from Europe that aids not only navicular disease, but also suspensory dermatitis, sacroiliac tears/strains, adhesion and others.

In conclusion, Dr. Jimmy's ending remark was that he really "enjoys helping these old loved ones. So take care of them, because they have taken care of you!" The PVPHA thanks Dr. Jimmy for coming out and sharing his expertise with us. He can be reached at (310) 798-6721 or equinedvm@tshepa.net.

### PVPHA Election of Officers

The PVPHA election of officers will be held at the June 18<sup>th</sup> General Membership meeting at 7pm at the Empty Saddle Club. The positions available for a two-year term which will start July, 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 are as follows: **Recording Secretary; Treasurer; Vice President of Education; Vice President of Fiscal Affairs** If you are interested in running for one of these Positions, please contact one of the members of The nominating committee, June Olney @ (310) 326 4531 or Kathy Gliksman @ (310) 325 9315.

### FROM THE EDITOR...

Horseshow season has begun. Please check the calendar for your preferences: for Western there is Los Serranos and for English there is ETI Corral 8. Both shows are located at Ernie Howlett Park. Please consider attending to support your local young riders!

The RHE Mayor's Ride and Boy Scout pancake breakfast is another very popular event each year...love those pancakes...yum! Meet up at Chandler Ring and it's off for a great ride before breakfast. Please be sure to read the report by Sheri Hastings regarding the proposed RPV Equestrian Center, lots of good information and perhaps, you may want to get involved.

Our raffle winner from the April Meeting is **Dana Adams**. She won a whole bucket of goodies for a senior horse- fly mask, Forco supplements, treats, probiotics, flymask and electrolytes . A \$90.00 retail value! We have been having raffles at our General Meetings and people have been winning some really nice stuff. Another reason to attend the General Meetings besides the great programs!

Please mark your calendars for our June 18 General Meeting- it's Board member election time! Becoming a Board member is a way to really get involved and to actively participate in making a positive contribution to our equestrian community.

Happy Trails,  
**Pam Turner**



Welcome New Members and Trail Donors: Lynn McGinnis and Maryann McClaury both referred by Pat Murnane.

### 2009 "SPIRIT OF THE HORSE" ART COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION GALA RECEPTION

The Gala Reception for this year's "*Spirit of the Horse*" Art Competition and Exhibition will take place on Saturday, May 9, 2009 from 5 to 9 p.m. at the PSZask Gallery, 31252 Palos Verdes Drive West, Rancho Palos Verdes. Now in its fourth year, the art competition attracts equine artists, both professional and student, from across the United States. Sponsored by Portuguese Bend Pony Club, the theme of this annual competition is a celebration of the beauty and noble spirit of the horse. The exhibit will run from May 9 to June 6, 2009

This year's competition will be juried by Daniel Pinkham, a local and highly regarded American landscape artist. Student entries will be juried by Cynthia Joyce, another noted local artist. The gala reception and award ceremony planned for the opening night will include a silent auction fund raiser to benefit Portuguese Bend Pony Club, a nonprofit organization, and also to sponsor *Return to Freedom*, American Wild Horse Sanctuary.

Portuguese Bend Pony Club, located in Rancho Palos Verdes, is a registered club of the United States Pony Club and is dedicated to educating local youths on horse care, management and equine sports. For more information regarding Portuguese Bend Pony Club please contact Sharon Cooper at (310) 977-5172. Information regarding the upcoming "*Spirit of the Horse*" competition can be addressed to Peggy Zask at (310) 429-0973.

**What's Happening:**

**May 3** - Los Serranos Awards Circuit Western & Reining Horseshow- Beginners classes available- Ernie Howlett Park. Contact: Trish Harik at 310-378-9911

**May 5** – Fiesta of the Spanish Horse at the LA Equestrian Center.

<http://www.fiestaspanishhorse.org/>

**May 9**– Mayor's Ride & Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast 8 am- meet at Chandler Ring

**May 9** – "Spirit of the Horse" Gala Reception 5 to 9 p.m. at the PSZask Gallery, 31252 Palos Verdes Drive West, RPV- Sponsored by Portuguese Bend Pony Club

**May 12**- RHE City Council Meeting- Commerical Trail Riding venture- we need your support at this meeting.

**May 17**- ETI Corral 8 English Horseshow at Ernie Howlett Park. Contact: Andrea Meek (310) 710-4580

**May 21**- General Meeting- Music at the Campfire Pit

**Equestrian Trails, Inc.**

**ETI Corral 8**

By Andrea Meek

At our first show on April 26th, we added two "Armed Forces Flat Medal" classes this year. We will be accepting items for **care packages** the day of all our shows to send to our Armed Forces men and women across the seas. Single serve packets of instant coffee and tea, small healthy snacks, nuts, beef jerky or items that can fit into backpacks are a hit. Items can be dropped off at the entry booth. If you prefer we will take checks made out to the Post Master for the shipping costs. **COME HELP SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!**

**ETI 2009 SHOW SCHEDULE**

**April 26**

**May 17**

**June 7**

**August 9**

**September 27**

**Retired QH & Mini Need Good Homes as Companion Horses**

Senior Citizen QH Gelding (may take small kids on lead line). Mini gelding - cute companion animal! Both must find homes before they can be re-located.

Call Dick Bara 310-541-1914

**New Board member**

A big PVPHA WELCOME to a new Board Member! **Michelle Sanborn** has filled the vacant office of VP of Fiscal Affairs.

**LETTER TO THE CITY OF RHE**

City of Rolling Hills Estates

April 20, 2009

4045 Palos Verdes Drive North

Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

The PVPHA has been following the issue of so called "commercial horseback trail riding business" with great interest. We feel that the offering of trail riding business is a great asset to the city in general. It offers a service to the community that enhances the equestrian lifestyle. These businesses not only give rides to people who otherwise would not be able to enjoy this wonderful activity, but it also teaches people how to act on the trail. They teach riders to properly respect private and public property, how to safely meet other riders, joggers, hikers etc. on the trail. They also teach riders how to conduct themselves on the trail to maximize both their own safety as well as the safety of others.

The PVPHA feels that the way current operators have been operating is satisfactory and they are complying with what the City has asked them to do. We feel that the best thing would be to leave things as they are. If a minor change to the ordinance is required then this should be done. It is very unfortunate that we would have to sacrifice or make such a large compromise for one or two residents. *The trail riding operations are all operating on lots zoned for horse keeping.*

**MOVING THE COMMERCIAL TRAIL RIDING OPERATIONS TO ERNIE HOWLETT PARK**

There are numerous problems with the proposed plan to move the trail riding businesses to Ernie Howlett Park.

**USING THE BARN**

1. Using the barn to stall approximately 20 to 25 horses as proposed would require tearing out the outside stalls and making one large pen to run all of these horses together. Even with twice a day cleaning the urine smell would be unbearable. Most likely to the point that people would not want to have BBQ's or picnics and very likely draw mass criticism from the little league and other sports organizations. The City has just completed refurbishing the barn which included installing new stall doors and de-rusting and painting the entire barn. With this type of activity major damage would occur each year.

The operations would take over other facilities such as riding rings, wash racks, tie racks, public restrooms as well as cause damage by tying horses to fences and trees, etc.

2. They would also take over the rings causing problems with others who wish to use them. This would cause damage to the footing causing added expense to the city. This type of business could also lead to horses for hire and would be very difficult to monitor and control.
3. There would be a major conflict with the horse shows. The two large shows would probably move to a new location. This would be a major revenue loss to the city.
4. With 20 or 25 horses at Ernie Howlett we would probably need someone on the grounds overnight. Is this feasible or even allowable? The park is not secure and may pose a liability for the city. There are several trails that lead out of the park that are always open. The main entrance at Hawthorne is not secure.

#### PROVIDING A NEW AREA BEHIND THE MAINTENANCE YARD

1. An alternate use of Ernie Howlett has been proposed. This is to prepare a fenced area for 20 to 25 horses next to the fenced maintenance storage area behind the maintenance building.
2. This would require grading, fencing, installing tie racks, installing wash racks, electrical power, drinking water, providing some type of bathroom facilities, some type of secure structure for office and tack storage. In the past, the P&A commission have strongly opposed bringing in containers for storage, etc. There would also have to be provisions for manure dumpsters and hay storage in an accessible location.
3. I would estimate that the cost for this would be significant and it is unlikely that the trail ride providers would be able to pay for this.
4. Item 5 under using the barn above would apply to this approach.

The PVPHA would like to propose an alternate solution if the Council determines that the trail riding business must be moved out of the residential horse overlay area.

1. Work with Don Knabe to obtain a small portion of additional land on the landfill next to the stable.
  - This would solve the problem of security posed at Ernie Howlett Park.
  - Would require less cost to prepare site. Most of the land in that area is flat.
  - Close proximity to stable for easier city management.
  - Would not interfere with Horse Shows.
  - Would not interfere with other riders.
  - Would not interfere with other activities at the park.
  - Would reduce maintenance.

The PVPHA Board has talked to many of our members as well as residents about the trail riding businesses. The consensus is that most everyone likes seeing the trail rides go by and feel that the way they are operating now is safe, polite and respectful of others. We get many comments that they like that the new riders are being taught trail etiquette and safety. People do not want to see large trail rides conducted by these businesses. They also like the fact that there is more than one business that they can go to so they have a choice. We feel that there should be some basic ground rules added to the riding businesses.

- Limit the number of riders on a ride to 6 plus wranglers. This is a safety issue for other trail users as well as the guided trail ride.
- Limit the age to 8 years minimum unless their insurance states otherwise.
- Limit the number of horses at the facility to 15.
- Do not allow horses for hire without a guide.

We strongly urge the City Council to find a way to allow the Commercial Trail Riding Businesses to continue as they are currently operating by changing the home business ordinance to allow uses outside the home. As an equestrian city, the lots in the horse overlay which meet the horse keeping requirements were zoned for horse keeping when people bought their homes.

The keeping of horses is the same for commercial riding businesses as it is for any other use.

However, if the council determines they cannot continue to allow the commercial riding businesses to operate in residential areas we encourage you to pursue the operation at the landfill by the stable as proposed.

We realize that this needs to be resolved in a timely matter. However, we urge you consider this matter carefully so that we do not find that we have something that does not work and is too expensive and we have to do it again.

Sincerely,

Dale Allen  
President  
PVPHA

## *Rhymes of the Range...*

**A MULE NAMED JAN**  
(the Rock Creek Station duo)  
By Bruce Harnishfeger

So this here's my story of a mule named Jan  
She's all black with a little bit of tan  
She followed us around wherever we'd go,  
Me atop her boyfriend horse: Leo  
Cause Leo, Leo and Jan  
Are the rock creek station duo.

When we picked them all up they were south of  
Lone Pine  
Out in a field, that took us hours to find  
They had no idea they were going on a drive,  
When we took off at o four forty five.

That's when the wranglers said "don't let the  
mules by"  
No matter what, no matter how they cry  
But what they didn't tell me, and what I couldn't  
see,  
Was Jan the black mule she was a following me.

She'd come up on my left, and I'd give her a  
frown  
Up on my right and I'd try to shut her down  
My arms got so tired of flailing around,  
I finally gave up, 'cause she was always around

Cause Leo and Jan, are the Rock Creek Station  
Duo

Well for 4 long days, and into each and every  
night  
Wherever Leo went, Jan would stay tight  
Even chasing strays, going this way and that,  
She never gave up, that mule of mostly black

And from time to time she'd come along side  
Of good ole Leo, just to say "hi"  
She'd give him a kiss; a wink of her eye  
It was so sweet, that I darn nearly cried

But then one day, out on the road  
With cars zooming by, how was I to know,  
That dear old Jan, that mule of mostly black  
Was getting frustrated, for being held back  
From Leo, cause Leo and Jan,  
Are the rock creek station duo

Ya see I'd gone to the front, just to lead the pack  
When I felt right away that no one had my back  
Feeling something missin' and hearing somethin'  
strange,  
It was Jan in the back, just calling his name

She'd come up on the left, she'd come up on the  
right  
When she came up the middle, people gave her  
such a fight  
Cause what they didn't know, and what they  
couldn't see  
Was Jan the black mule, was a tryin' to find me

So I fell back, and I got out of line,  
I moved to the left so Leo she could find  
Then Jan came a running just along side  
Of her boyfriend horse in the brown tone hide  
Cause Leo, Leo and Jan, are the Rock Creek  
Station Duo

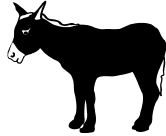
Ya know early one mornin' 'tween dark and  
dawn,  
We were all up so early, I still had to yawn.  
But I couldn't answer this question put to me  
Was Jan the black mule still a courtin' Leo and  
thee?

So I looked to my left, and I looked to my right  
Trying to find Jan before she got outta sight  
Then Leo let out, a whinny hello!  
And Jan came a running, and found her Leo!

Well I hardly ever cuss and I hardly ever spit,  
But commin' down that mountain boy, I nearly  
sh\*t!  
When the trail got so scary, I didn't even see  
When Jan the black mule, got out in front of me!

Ya she'd go off and have a good time,  
Then wait up for the rest of us to find  
Our own way down that scary decline  
Then show up with more fun in mind

Thank God we all made it down, all in one piece,  
Through all of the valleys, and over all of the  
peaks  
Ya know I found religion on that mountain I'll say!  
And now I give thanks each and every day  
For Leo, Leo and Jan, the Rock Creek Station  
Duo!  
Ya, Leo, Leo and Jan, the Rock Creek Station  
Duo!!



## RPV Equestrian Park Report

By Sheri Hastings

The idea of an Equestrian Park in the Portuguese Bend "Sand Box" was first conceived by Don Burt. Mr. Burt needs no introduction for most of you (for the rest of you, just Google "Don Burt"). The Equestrian Park would satisfy many needs for horseman in a society where places to trail ride are becoming increasingly scarce. The Rancho Palos Verdes Equestrian Park will become an important part of the future Palos Verdes Peninsula Horse Community.

If you are not a Portuguese Bend local you might be wondering where exactly the "Sand Box" is? If you drive along Palos Verdes Drive South from Hawthorne towards San Pedro, the Sand Box is in the undeveloped area on the left just past Portuguese Bend. There are about 25 acres there with easy access to Palos Verdes Drive South for people who trailer in to ride in Portuguese Bend as well as easy trail access from the other side of the hill. This area is not part of the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve or the Forrestal Preserve but it has

trail heads on either side to both areas.

The focus for Phase 1 of the Equestrian Park concept Plan is entirely on trail riding and day use. It calls mostly for a trailhead, some corrals for day use, a picnic area, tie rails, a tack and wash area, a horse trailer loading area and maybe a fenced arena.

This SOUNDS fairly simple but actually there are a lot of challenges. What about the gate. What about the parking? What about the neighbors? What about the traffic? What about the maintenance? What about the geology study? (This is part of a very active landslide -- which is why it still available. What about a city that seems increasingly unfriendly to horses? Who will maintain the trails. What about the porta-potty? What about the trash? What about manure disposal? And maybe most especially who will pay for all of this?

What if? What if? What if? What if no one tried? We can keep asking ourselves What if? and throw away an opportunity for an Equestrian Park for future equestrians. Or we can jump on the chance to make this happen. Most of the what-ifs have answers. (This newsletter article would be entirely too long if I went into all of the "what ifs" and their possible answers.) What we need more than anything right now is grant writers and people with access to grants and people who know how to navigate the political waters of RPV. I also need a tax id number for the park and would like help in setting that up. (I need it in order to apply for the grants.)

So far I have about 300K in potential grants. If we even got half of those awarded=20 to us, that would be enough for a great start on the Park. I think we might be able to get part of Phase 1 within a couple years. Some of you already responded to Melody's email a couple weeks ago about this. I will be getting back in touch with you soon. For any one else interested in helping please contact me at [sherihastings@yahoo.com](mailto:sherihastings@yahoo.com) or ring me at 310-544-1064.



**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

**RENEWALS:**

Renewals are sent out in May and need to be received by June 30<sup>th</sup>. The Membership Director, Jim Moore is available to answer any questions: (310) 377-8834

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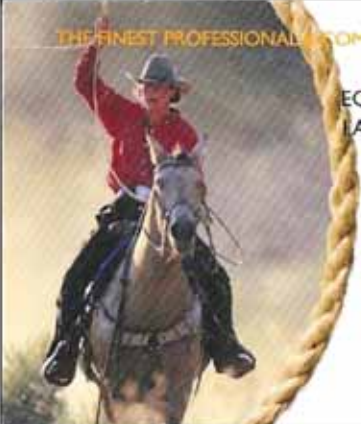
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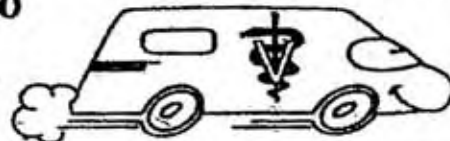


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