PALOS VERDES PENINSULA HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
DISPATCH
Vol. XXVIII, Issue 12 PVPHA.org December 2014

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Dec. 7
San Pedro holiday parade
spholidayparade.com
13th Street and Pacific Avenue

Dec. 11
Louise Koch dressage clinics
Info: 310-377-3507
Portuguese Bend Riding Club

Dec. 11
Sunnyside Ridge Trail meeting
See Page 2.
Miraleste Intermediate School

Dec. 22
RHE Equestrian Committee meeting
Rolling Hills Estates City Hall

Jan. 17, 2015
Cowboy Poetry & Music Festival
cccowgirl@gmail.com
Empty Saddle Club

Jan. 26, 2015
RHE Equestrian Committee meeting
Rolling Hills Estates City Hall

Feb. 19, 2015
PVPHA general meeting
Empty Saddle Club

Events listed here are not necessarily sponsored or endorsed by the Palos Verdes Peninsula Horsemen's Association. To add an event, send the information to pvpha2010@gmail.com.

NICOLE MOORADIAN
Author Elizabeth Letts signs books at the November PVPHA general meeting.

Best-selling author inspires writers, riders at meeting

by NICOLE MOORADIAN
DISPATCH EDITOR

Elizabeth Letts, the best-selling author of *The Eighty-Dollar Champion: Snowman, the Horse That Inspired a Nation*, told attendees of the November general meeting that she was inspired to write the non-fiction book after seeing a photo of Snowman—a plow horse purchased

See 'LETTS,' Page 4.

No general meeting in December

by NICOLE MOORADIAN
DISPATCH EDITOR

There will be no general meeting for the Palos Verdes Peninsula Horsemen's Association in December. Join us Jan. 17, 2015 at the Empty Saddle Club for the annual Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival.

The next general meeting is scheduled for Feb. 19, 2015.

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NEWS BRIEFS

RPV seeking input on Sunnyside Ridge Trail

The city of Rancho Palos Verdes is holding a meeting at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 11, 2014 to gather input for the design of the equestrian/pedestrian trail at Sunnyside Ridge. The meeting will be held in Room 306 at Miraleste Intermediate School.

The trail, which is at long last being restored, will benefit our equestrian friends on the east side of the Hill, providing them with a vital link to the Palos Verdes trail network—it connects horse owners in the eastern part of the city with all of the trails in Dapplegray, Rolling Hills and the entire Peninsula.

Please come and provide your valuable input; what is ultimately installed will benefit all equestrians who enjoy the trail system.

—Sharon Yarber, Vice President of Civic Affairs

Prepare for Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival

The 2014 Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival promises to be action packed this year! Faces both familiar and new faces will be performing.

"I can hardly believe it has been 18 years since the festival began," said festival director Pam Turner. "We have come a long way and have met some pretty nice and talented folks. The night of the festival I will have a special announcement for you and hope that you can make it."

As always, if there is anyone out there who would like to share a poem or two—or even a song—please contact Turner at 424-625-1202 or cccowgirl@gmail.com.

The festival is scheduled for Jan. 17, 2015 at the Empty Saddle Club.

ROBBIE FOLTZ

Local equestrians and their horses dressed up as super heroes for the costume class at the Dapplegray Gymkhana in October.

Frankie Foltz receives Youth Achievement Award

by NICOLE MOORADIAN
DISPATCH EDITOR

Local rider Frankie Foltz received the Palos Verdes Peninsula Horsemen's Association Youth Achievement Award from Vice President of Fiscal Affairs Kelly Yates at the organization's November meeting.

The Youth Achievement Award is given when young riders are "caught doing something right," Yates said.

Frankie, 15, is a leader with the PVPHA Junior Drill Team, Yates said. Foltz and four other young riders took it upon themselves to write this year's routine.

Frankie ran the practices and chose the music, too, Yates said.

In 2½ of owning her horse, Thunder, Frankie has learned to give allergy shots and Pentosan injections, as well as keep detailed records of her horse's care, Yates said. "Frankie happily takes full responsibility."

Because the days are so short, Frankie often cares for Thunder in the dark, as his corral has no lights.

About a month ago, Frankie called Yates at about 8:30 p.m., Yates said. Frankie was at the barn and had checked Thunder in the dark by running her hands over him. She noticed that his back legs were swollen, so she brought him inside and called Yates.

"Many people don't notice swelling in the light, let alone ... in the dark," Yates said.

"She's a wonderful horse owner and a talented leader, Yates said. "Tonight, we recognize you and we are proud of you." U

ROBBIE FOLTZ

Left to right: PVPHA Vice President of Fiscal Affairs Kelly Yates, Youth Achievement Award honoree Frankie Foltz, Dr. Ruth Sobeck and best-selling author Elizabeth Letts pose for a photo during the November PVPHA meeting.

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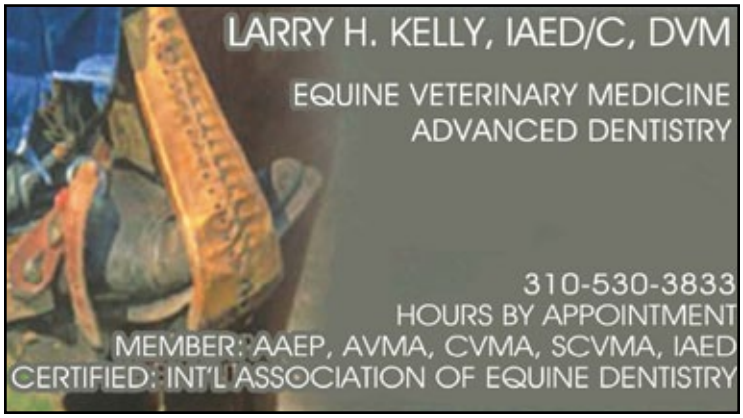

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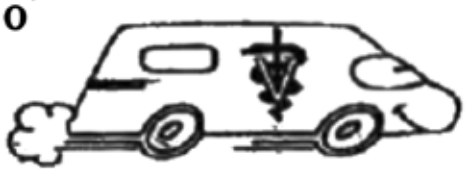

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LETTS: 'Idle curiosity' over photo led to best-selling book

Continued from Page 1.

in 1956 for $80 by Harry de Leyer—jumping another horse.

"I just stopped in my tracks, and my first thought was, 'I thought I had tried every single dangerous trick in the book, but I had never tried this before,'" said Letts, who grew up riding horses on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. "And I couldn't get the picture out of my mind ... I thought, 'I've got to find out this story.' So it was really idle curiosity."

Letts entertained the audience with more stories about her time growing up with horses, a description of her writing process and stories about meeting de Leyer, before taking the time to sign copies of her book.

"OH MY GOODNESS what an enjoyable night!!!" Cathilee Sharretts, who attended the event with her granddaughter, wrote on Facebook. "Even though I do not know much about horses—being a former librarian it was great hearing about Elizabeth's road to writing, her favorite authors, (and) her favorite horse books."

To purchase a copy of The Eighty-Dollar Champion *from local retailer The Book Frog, visit thebookfrog.com.*

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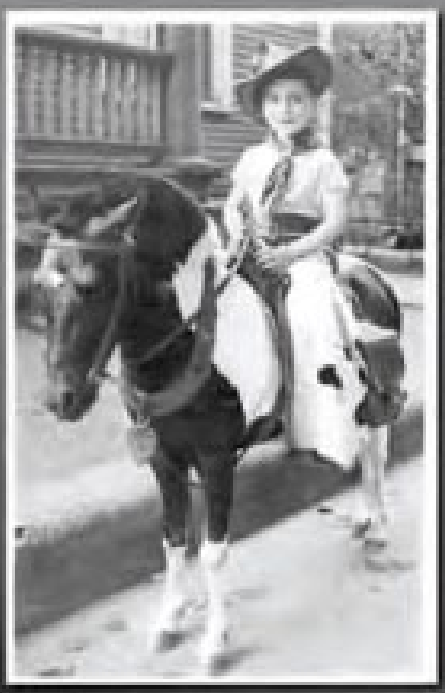

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☐ *This is a membership renewal.*

Please indicate how much you would like to donate; checks should be made payable to PVPHA:

Household membership $ *35.00*

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The *Dispatch* is always looking for volunteer writers and photographers to help fill its next issue. Contact the editor at pvpha2010@gmail.com for more information.

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Monthly Rates:

Full Page (approx. 8″ x 10″)	$150
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Quarter Page (4″ x 5″)	$35
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Any additional printing costs must be paid by the advertiser.

DEADLINE for the receipt of ads is the 20th of the month.

NEED AN AD DESIGNED?

Dispatch editor Nicole Mooradian can help. Email her at nicole@nicolemooradian.com for rates.

Join Now and Don't Pay Again Until July 2016!

Membership dues are critical because they help us in our mission to preserve horse keeping on the Peninsula and promote education by funding the following:

- *Monthly newsletter publication*
- *Public outreach and publicity when local horse keeping or trails become threatened by proposed new legislation or development*
- *Consultant and experts' fees for consulting and providing comments on EIR's or proposed legislation or development*
- *Legal action when deemed necessary*

Donations to the Trail Preservation Fund enable the club to sponsor, or make contributions toward various improvement projects for trails and local equestrian facilities.

Please help us in our mission by encouraging your horse-owning friends to become members too!

Check out our web page at **http://pvpha.org/** where you can pay for your membership and find meeting information, current and previous copies of the DISPATCH, Calendar and Contact information, and more. Or print and fill out the membership form on page 10 and mail it in.

Thank You!

The PVPHA “Dispatch” is a publication of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Horsemen’s Association, a charitable nonprofit organization classified by the IRS as a publicly supported tax-exempt organization. Please direct all editorial correspondence to:
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