



BITS O' NEWS

Straight from the Horse's Mouth

February 2017

HERITAGE

Equestrian Center

EVENTS

Feb 14 - Board of Directors Meeting
7pm

Feb 18 - Horsemanship Clinic
Barry Berg
8am - 6pm

Feb 25 - Local Trail Ride
Brent Dooley
12pm - 3pm



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PLEASE
VOLUNTEER

President's Message

I have been president of the Alta Loma Riding Club for six months, new to the organization as well as the board. I have had the opportunity to get to know some of the members, all of the board and the ALRC as an organization. I have nothing but praise and thanks for all of you who generously give of your time and effort. As President, it is my duty and obligation to the organization to keep the members informed about the goals and objectives we have achieved and those yet to be accomplished.

Having dealt with and managed volunteer and booster organizations in the past, I have experienced the trials and tribulations that plague these organizations. One such problem is lack of membership enthusiasm in getting involved or helping with club activities. I know this is sometimes caused by a busy life, work, sports, kids, and life in general. However, I also know, through experience, that sometimes this is because the leaders of the organization are not welcoming. So, this is a call to service. I am personally inviting you to come join our volunteers, on Mondays and/or Fridays, in cleaning and maintaining the equestrian center. Many hands make light work: a couple hours of work once or twice a week goes a long way in maintaining our equestrian center. In addition, we are in need of some equipment. A gator or quad would do wonders for our facility so if you have one sitting in the garage you no longer use, we sure can use it. We can also use your expertise in painting, roofing, plumbing, general construction, welding, lighting, flooring, and gardening. The work may not be needed immediately, however, a phone number with your expertise is. We do have some volunteers lined up for future work.

We are working tirelessly with the city regarding arrangements to improve our ability to maintain the equestrian center. One such example is the city tractor. We now have access to the tractor when needed rather than just Mondays and Fridays when it is used for weekly maintenance. This means we are maintaining the arenas more diligently, especially during the rainy season. We are now grooming the arenas prior to rain in an effort to improve drainage and prevent flooding. This pre-rain grooming may close the arena prior to a storm, however, as many of you saw after the last significant rain, the arenas can also be opened sooner. Please bear with us. In doing research on arenas, there are many things that can cause significant damage leading to costly repairs. The most significant is damage to the footing under the sand or base (NO FREE-RUNNING HORSES IN THE ARENAS).

For more information, please visit our website (altalomaridingclub.com) or Facebook page.



VP's Message

By Cassie Sanchez
2nd Vice President

Rain, rain, and more rain! Although we really appreciate the rain for our environment, it really puts a damper (pardon the pun) on our equestrian activities. Because of the weather we had to cancel our January General Meeting with Luis Torres' demonstration and also his clinic which was planned for January as well. The ALRC Show Committee is in the process of rescheduling the Luis Torres Clinic. Watch for updates regarding this event.



Just a reminder—be sure to sign up for Barry Berg's Horsemanship Clinic in February. The slots are filling up fast so don't wait too long and be disappointed. Contact me (Cassie) or Barry for reservations.

Hopefully in March Luis will present his popular riding clinic. Also, plan on attending our General Meeting in April. Dates and information will follow shortly. We have quite a program planned.



HORSEMANSHIP
CLINIC #2
with
Barry Berg



Hosted by
Alta Loma Riding Club
Heritage Park Equestrian Center
5546 Beryl St.
Alta Loma, CA 91701
February 18th
8:00am - 6:00pm

Fee
\$75.00
(includes lunch)

Limited to 10 participants

**Barry is very generously
donating all proceeds
to the ALRC**

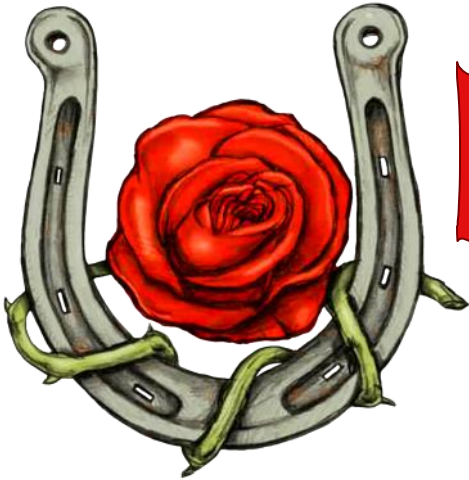
THANK YOU, Barry!

In this second clinic we will continue working on lateral work and introduce the hackamore.

We hope you will attend Barry's second Horsemanship Clinic. Spectators are welcome and encouraged to attend. It will be very interesting and informative.

Thank you, Barry, for your time, your talents and your generosity! Also, many thanks to Ora Berg for preparing and providing lunch for the event.





LOCAL TRAIL RIDE

**Saturday February 25th
12:00 pm
Heritage Park
Trail Boss: Brent Dooley**

In this month's trail ride, we are going to start at Heritage Park at 12-noon, ride to the top of Hermosa, and then head over to the top of Haven. From there, we will ride back to Heritage Park. We should be back by 3:00pm.



Hello all!



We had a fantastic ride last month to the Cucamonga Dam. We rode for a good 2 1/2 hours over to the dam and back. We experienced two great water crossings and some very fun trails through some beautiful back country below the dam. A few horses were a bit hesitant to enter the cold fresh water but with the help of others, they made it through with no problems. It is always great to see the more experienced riders help out others. Great team work everyone!!!

CONTACT

For more information:
Brent Dooley,
ALRC Local Trail Director
909-941-9857

Hope to see you at our next ride!



ALRC MEMBERSHIP

By Ali Smilgis
Membership Director

As I write this article I am looking at lovely blue skies with lovely white clouds in the sky. The rain has subsided for a little while and everything is so clean and bright. I hope many of you are enjoying the riding trails (no dust!) and cool temperatures we have been experiencing.

Unfortunately we have had to postpone a few events due to the inclement weather and the condition of the arenas, but I know that as Spring approaches we will have many more events to enjoy at our beautiful Heritage Park Arena.



We have a new member in our club, Please join me in welcoming Jayne to future events. If you know of anyone who would like to join the club, don't hesitate to give them our website address (www.altalomaridingclub.com) so they can check us out and download a membership application.

When I send out the renewal forms in a couple of months please note that we are no longer asking for a FAX number, but we would love to know when your phone is a CELL number so that we can include you in on TEXT messages.

So WELCOME to 2017 and I hope to see many of you on the trail and at our events in the coming months.



Shopping...exhibits...demonstrations...clinicians
GO FOR THE FUN!



The following article appeared in <https://horseandriderbooks.wordpress.com/2014/02/10/love-me-love-my-horse-valentines-day-dos-and-donts-for-all-the-suckers-out-there-who-love-horse-lovers/>



Love Me, Love My Horse

Valentine's Day Dos and Don'ts

A modern-day challenge it is not - in fact, odds are it has existed as long as there has been the interactive equation of human and horse: What do you do when your one true love divides his/her loyalties between two? That is, between you and a four-legged paramour with hay-scented breath and a tendency toward gaseousness?

Perhaps to the dismay of many freshly entrapped in the web of human-equine devotion, Rule #1 is: Never attempt to come between a horseperson and his/her horse - regardless of the holiday. In other words, to demand a choice this coming Valentine's Day of "It's me or the horse!" practically bangs the nail in your heart-shaped coffin. Oh yes, you may argue the horse requires sacrifice of a far more frequent and significant nature. But be warned: that will only drive your lover farther from your arms and straight into a certain warm-and-hairy embrace, to be exact. So how to romance the horse lover? How to shower affection on the object of your desire who so boldly shares his/her affections with another? Here are a few tips that if you're willing to "give," the "release" will be well worth the wait.

5 Tips for Romancing the Horse Lover

1. **DON'T** wrinkle or hold your nose, or make a face, when entering your horse lover's car or truck.

Extra Cupid Points: This Valentine's Day, vacuum and clean the interior of the vehicle but DO NOT throw away any mysterious bits of leather or metal. Gather unidentifiable items into a shallow plastic garment bin with a cover and LEAVE IT IN THE AUTO-MOBILE - your Valentine will appreciate the attempt at organization, even if it doesn't last but he/she will never forgive you if a slobber strap or replacement billet has gone missing when it is needed.

2. DO offer to stop by the barn and "just say hi" to you-know-who, but respect your Valentine's need for "horse time"—that is, quiet time, away from it all, with only a four-legged partner to talk to. All of us need a way to decompress and clarify what's important in life.

Extra Cupid Points: This Valentine's Day, buy your special someone chocolates, and grab a supersize bag of carrots at the grocery store, while you're at it. Tie a red ribbon around the top and voila! You're on your way toward winning over two hearts!



3. DON'T roll your eyes at, laugh at, or otherwise mock the strange titles, headlines, and topic names of interest in horse-related books and magazines your horse lover regularly reads. Believe it or not, "The Lowdown on Sheath and Udder Cleaning" contains knowledge essential to Senor Forelock's health and comfort, and "Manure Maintenance Misconceptions" may yield the secret to stifling the stench so often attached to "the boots in the hall."

Extra Cupid Points: Buy a subscription to the equestrian magazine that caters to your Valentine's favorite breed or discipline of choice. There are many (to you, perhaps, befuddling) types of equestrian-related publications out there and they all provide the kind of "continuing education" your love will happily pursue, while blowing kisses your way from the back of you-know-who.

4. DO volunteer to drive the rig, hold the horse, carry the hay, man the gate, fix the fence, build the shed, shovel the...well, you get the picture.

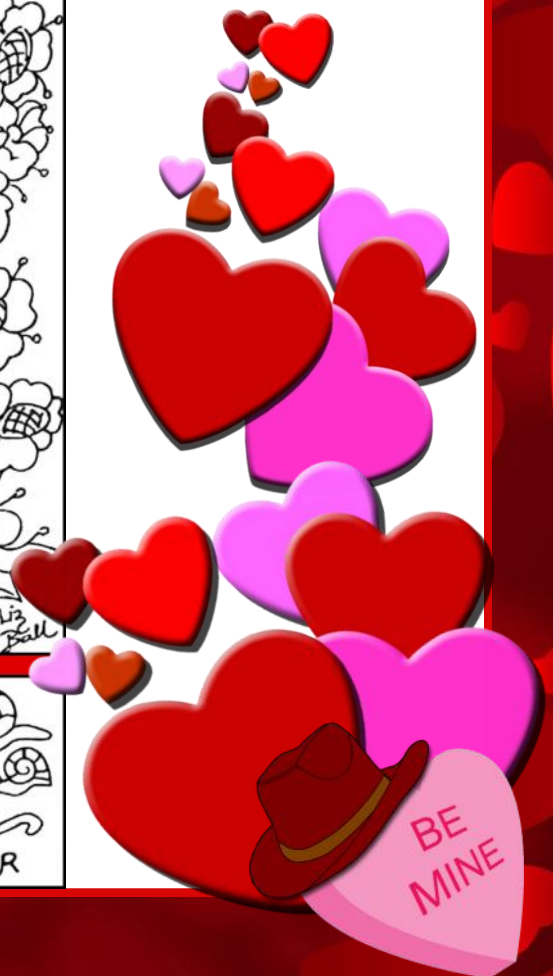
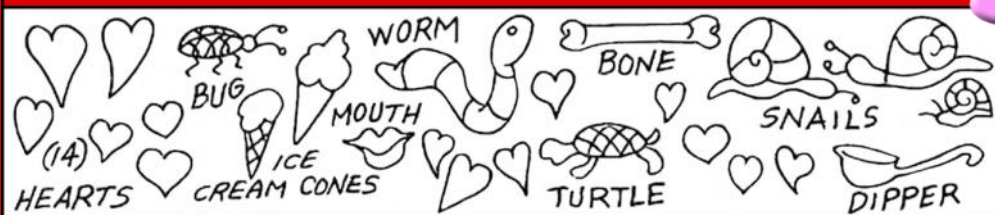
Extra Cupid Points: Take care of the evening feed that cold night when he/she is going to be home late from work. You can love your horse and STILL be thankful to come right inside a warm house and a glass of wine instead of feeling your way to the barn in the dark and breaking 2 inches of ice off frozen water buckets.

5. DON'T micromanage your horse lover's finances. Trust me, there's little about it you'll like but it is commonly accepted by most in the equine industry that, at the outset, owning and riding horses is a financially devastating set of circumstances. If you're devoted to your true love and he/she's devoted to their horse, the hours will be long and many to earn Handsome's board and tuition while keeping a roof over your own heads.

Extra Cupid Points: A gift certificate to a local tack shop supports a small business AND puts a smile on your Valentine's face. Go ahead, throw some more money out the stall window.



Love each other,
love your horses.
Happy
Valentine's Day!



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South Arena: 295' x 150'
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Trail Access



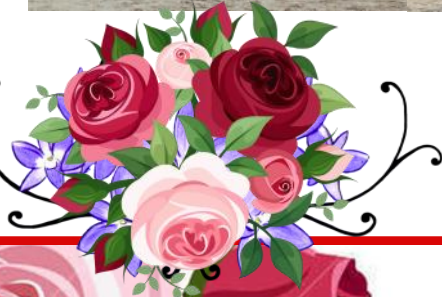
Low Rental Rates

\$150/6 hours: includes both arenas and grounds fee
Kitchen: \$50/event
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ALTA LOMA RIDING CLUB

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**Equestrian Center Equipment
Donations Needed**

Please consider an individual or company donation for the following new or used equipment to help our equestrian center volunteers keep the facility in good condition.

Cash donations of any amount are appreciated. These funds will be held separately for facility maintenance.

- Small tractor (35hp>) with bucket and blade
- Utility vehicle similar to Artic Cat or Gator types
- The Rascal LGR™
- 2 Manure Forks
- 1 33-gal. rough neck trash container



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HAPPY
Valentine's Day



ALTA LOMA RIDING CLUB

Community organization dedicated to the interest, lifestyle and continued preservation of owning and riding horses in Alta Loma and Rancho Cucamonga, CA



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