

ALTA LOMA
RIDING CLUB

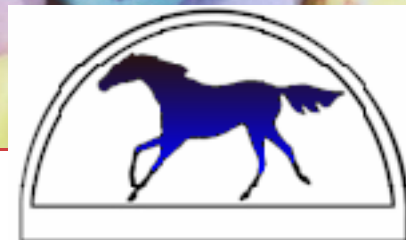
P.O. Box 8116 Alta Loma,
CA 91701

See us on Facebook

Bits O'News

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FEBRUARY 2019



CALENDER

- **Feb 3 RCEP
HARMS training
- park closed**
- **Feb 14
Valentine's Day**
- **MARCH 24
Playday, look for
more infor-
mation on our
Facebook page
and emails**

President's Message

Like most of you at the first of every year, I reflect on the previous year and see where there is room for improvement. I reevaluate my previous goals and objectives to see if I was successful then set new goals for the year. I do the same with my horsemanship. I reflect on where I was, where I am currently and where I would like to be by the end of the year. I also determine if I met my previous goals or if not why not. Then, most importantly I move forward.

I do have one constant and ongoing goal with regards to horsemanship to never stop learning, regardless how much I know. If one of our goals is not that of seeking knowledge, we merely grow stagnant and accepting of status quo. Status quo is poison that not only stops growth; it causes us to be blind to possibilities. I gain knowledge in many ways. I take lessons and listen to people who know more than I do, experts. I listen to people I respect who may not know more than I do. I listen to people that don't know much at all, just to see if they have knowledge in some aspect of horsemanship that I am lacking. I also watch people ride, not to judge, but to see if there is communication with the horse. Can I learn from the rider's techniques? Does the rider know the basics: balance, moving with the horse, not blocking, soft legs and hands and partnership of horse and rider.

There is one more critical aspect of learning that a lot of us practice very little. We need people to watch us ride. Most of us don't have access to arenas with mirrors or video streaming while we ride. We must have fellow equestrians watch us ride to point out our mistakes. It is the only chance we have of becoming better riders.

One final point, horse people all seem to have an opinion on how something should be done. I too have opinions on proper methodologies and techniques, however I also realize that there are other training philosophies out there. The critical question is does it work for horse and rider. My personal feeling about people giving me advice is that I will listen, if it conforms to my philosophy and either use it or not. The one thing I don't do is get offended because someone saw something in my riding that they thought they could correct. None of us are perfect riders, as much as we would like to believe we are. Even the top riders and trainers take lessons.

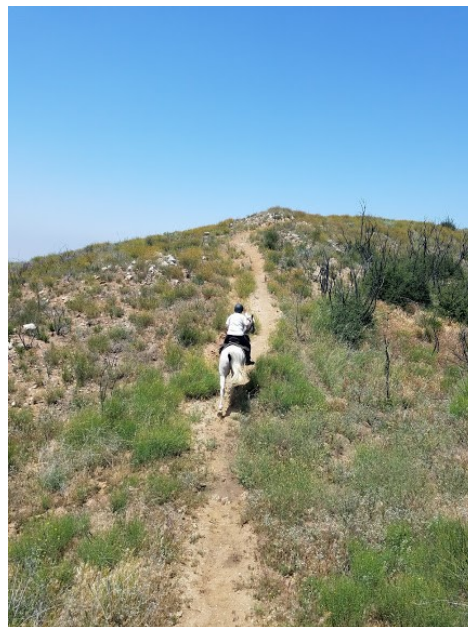
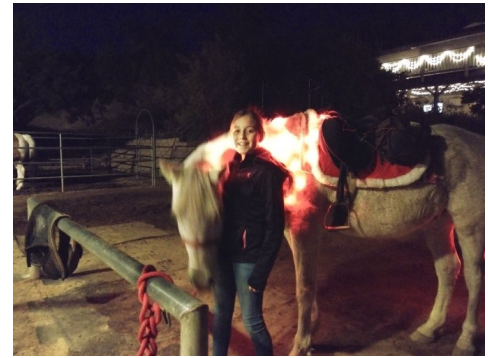
Congratulations to Susanne Lanini and her horse Justin on their accomplishments in the dressage arena last year and beginning of this year, high scores and many awards. She is a shining example to all of us, that if you ride and are dedicated to improving your skills, the sky is the limit.

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Local Trail Rides With Barb De Witt and Pharaoh

The holiday season is an amazing time of good cheer with family and friends. This includes fun and festivities with our Alta Loma Riding Club. On Tuesday evening, December 11, a group of 23 horse and riders were seen from near and far as our lighted and decorated horses rode from Heritage Park to Thoroughbred to take in all the beautiful sights and sounds of Christmas. I think we were almost as much of an attraction as were the houses with their spectacular display of Christmas lights. We were so fortunate to have riders from Canyon Creek Ranch, Glenlock Stables, Greystone in Upland, and even from as far as Norco and La Brea. It is so fun getting to know new people, making connections, and sharing our wonderful town with others. After our leisurely ride of an hour and 45 minutes, we returned to Heritage Park where Rick had prepared hot coffee, hot tea, and an assortment of sweets to finish off our evening. An extra special huge thanks goes out to Martha Cowan and Brandon Berg for volunteering to do pooper-scooper duty so the residents would be happy to welcome us back, year after year.



I do not have another Club ride planned yet, but I love to help explore out local trails with anyone who would like to find new places to ride. Please feel free to call me if you want a guide, or if you just want a companion to ride with you. My time is very flexible because I only substitute now that I am retired.

Cary's Adventure on Colorado and Orange Grove

Each year ALRC member Cary Westcott drives down Colorado Blvd on January 1st. He does so with flowers all around him and the crowds clapping and waving. Cary is a float driver for Fiesta Floats, an award winning float designer and builder. This year he was driving the front end of the Chinese American Heritage Foundation float. This float depicted the merging of the Union Pacific train line. This is also that float that many saw having technical difficulties turning from Orange Grove to Colorado.



The well known Tournament of Roses Parade is a staple in Pasadena, and around the world, on New Years Day. Many this year saw the float with the 2 trains start smoking as it was trying to make the turn. Audiences were not told if this was part of the show (many floats have pyrotechnics or smoke as part of their design) or a real problem. After finding the float wasn't moving, it became apparent that there was a problem. It turns



out that a small pin point hole in the transmission line allowed some transmission fluid to vaporize and get into the electronics on the train. This caused a small fire in the rear driver's compartment, putting the driver in danger. He was able to get out, but not before his new scarf caught on fire along with the sleeping bag he was sitting on (its cold out there). The fire was put out quickly and all onboard were briefly evacuated. With the electronics out, all steering and breaking was out.

Breakdowns happen, and large tow trucks are on hand to tow floats down the line. This breakdown was not different. A tow truck hooked up to the front of the float and began to pull it down the parade route. This is where issue number 2 came in. The anchor on the float broke, releasing from the rig. Cary, in the driver's seat, could do nothing with the steering out. The truck was stopped by resting on the rear of the two truck and damage was assessed. I should mention that Cary had been up for over 24 hours at this point and suffering from the flu. However, he was still able to take charge, direct the fixing of the tow bar and worked to get another rig to help pull the float down the line. The float finished the parade, along with the 2 floats and a band behind it, though much later than normally done.

Next year, I'm sure, Cary will be once again be driving a float down the route, but I'm sure we are all hoping that things go a little more smoothly. The public is welcome to see the floats for free the night before the parade as they line up along Orange Grove or after the parade along Sierra Madre and Washington boulevards



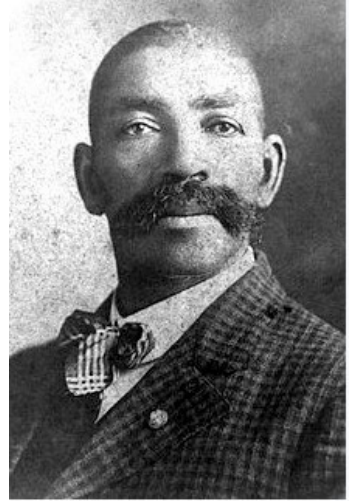
for a small fee. Come out next year and support Cary and the other drivers and float builders on a job well done.



Who is that MASKED MAN?

Pretty much everybody knows The Lone Ranger, first on the radio with Paul Haliwell, George Seaton, Earle Graser, Brace Beemer as his voice, then movies with various actors like Clayton Moore (1956, 1958), Clint Eastwood (1960), and Arnie Hammer (2003). The TV Series made Clayton Moore (1949–1957) a household name, but have you ever wondered if there really was a Lone Ranger?

Let me tell you about Bass Reeves. Bass was born into slavery in Arkansas in 1838. Bass and his family were slaves to William Steele Reeves (Representative of Arkansas State Legislator) son, Colonel George Reeves. Bass beat up George Reeves to escape slavery during the American Civil War and fled to Indian Territory in the North. He lived with the Cherokee, Seminole and Creek Indians learning their languages until the 13th Amendment freed him from slavery in 1865.



In 1875 he became a deputy US Marshall due to his knowledge of Indian Languages from his time living with them. He worked for 32 years as a federal peace officer and became one of Judge Isaac Parker's most valued deputies. He was known for his expertise with rifles and pistols and was purported to have shot 14 men in his career as a peace officer in defense of his life. When Oklahoma became a state in 1907, he became an officer in the Muskogee Police Department until his retirement.

Now why am I telling you about this man in the same story as the Lone Ranger, you might ask. Well, he rode a White or gray Horse and was widely known as famous in his day. He wore disguises, had a Native American Partner and gave out silver keepsakes to people.

He was known as an unusually honest man who pursued his own son when his son was charged with murdering his wife. He arrested over 3000 fugitives and yet as noted above only shot 14 of them in self defense. His preference was always to bring them in alive for proper legal processes.

Bass was a man of integrity, honesty, bravery and the true hero qualities that exemplify what the radio, TV and movies have shown as 'THE LONE RANGER'.



Source: The Lone Ranger and Bass Reeves Wikipedia

ALRC MEMBERSHIP!!!

Do you know someone who might like to be a member of the Club? Remember the club is not just for horse owners, it is for anyone who loves our rural living! Please remember that without the Alta Loma Riding Club we would lose a lot of our large animal rights. There are many other special interests that would love to have the facilities the we have at Heritage Park. The bridle trails that traverse our city were campaigned for by the Club when our area starting developing. We are working on an on-line version of our membership application and paying through PayPal for your convenience. We'll keep you updated as to when it is available.

Good Riding and hope to see many of you on the trails and at events throughout the year.

Ali Smilgis - Membership Director

Membership Application

Membership is only \$30 /year for the whole family and its time to renew

Please fill out the application and send it with a check to Alta Loma Riding Club P.O. Box 8116 Alta Loma, CA 91701

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email: _____

Acknowledgement: The Alta Loma Riding Club (ALRC) is not responsible and assumes no liability for any personal injury, property damage, or theft occurring on the ALRC premises or club activity. The undersigned waives any and all claims against the ALRC, officers, sponsors or members.

Signature of applicant(s) _____

Heritage Park Equestrian Center

A Multiuse Equestrian Facility

Located at

5546 Beryl, Alta Loma, CA 91701



Amenities

- Show office
- Concession stand
- Arena lighting
- Bathrooms
- 2 arenas
S - 295' x 150'
N - 220' x 90'
- PA system
- Water
- Hitching posts
- Trailer parking
- Trail access
- Jumps
- Dressage court


Rental Rates

- \$150/6hr—including both arena and grounds fees
- Kitchen \$50/event
- Multipurpose room \$50/event
- Cleaning deposit \$150—refundable

Contact

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Larry Henderson (909) 226-3956

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