



**Dedicated to promoting and preserving the rural and equestrian lifestyle in our community.**

ALRC NEWSLETTER • FEBRUARY 2022

# BITS *of* NEWS

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*from Natalie Beechler, ALRC President*

Thank you all who came out and attended our Grand Re-Opening of our Obstacle Course at Heritage Park Equestrian Center. For those who couldn't make it, our local Girl Scout Emily was recognized by ALRC and the City of Rancho Cucamonga for her efforts in completing her Gold Award for her Troup # 12814. I had the privilege of presenting Emmie with a Certificate of Appreciation from ALRC and she was presented with a plaque from the City of Rancho Cucamonga by Mayor Dennis Michael, and members of the City Council Ryan Hutchison and Kristine Scott. We heard from former ALRC President Molly Mitchell whose husband was instrumental in the original design for the course, and followed up the ceremony with a demonstration of how and why each obstacle can be utilized by equestrians. We finished with a very successful Trail Clinic.



February brings love into the forefront—Love takes on many forms. I was reminded of this when a friend mentioned to me, “It is so nice that you have found that ‘thing’ that you love” (referring to the equestrian lifestyle). This struck me—many folks are out there still searching for the “thing” that makes them feel alive. It is a blessed thing to be consumed by something such that you wake up looking forward to it. Art or music, old cars or old dogs—labors of



love give people solidarity, purpose, and drive through challenging times. They provide opportunity to grow as a person—emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually. Such things connect people of the mind and soul—and what amazing people I've been able to share the best of experiences with—through a passion for horses.

Tragically, as some of you may have heard, in January, we lost one of our own. Wes Burns was a fellow rider, equestrian camper, and good friend to my husband and I—and his loss has been incredibly difficult for those who knew him. A light to the darkness has been the response of our community, rallying around the fellow equestrian Wes loved and shared his life with. We are definitely a group who looks out for each other in hard times, and we take on loss just as we take on gain—with big hearts, and enough grit to get through it.

**“Sit tall in the saddle and hold your head high, keep your eyes fixed where the trail meets the sky...”**

**—Chris Ledoux**





# FEBRUARY FOCUS Claudia McNeill, Newsletter Editor

## RANCHO CUCAMONGA EQUESTRIAN PATROL

*Have you seen these very distinguished, uniform-clad riders upon their trusty steeds patrolling the local trails or working a special event? Well let me formally introduce you to the Rancho Cucamonga Equestrian Patrol! I recently had the privilege of sitting down with Joe Cowan, who has been a patrol member since 2017, and is now its commander. He shared about the unit and his experience. I would love to tell you all about our chat.*



The Rancho Cucamonga Equestrian Patrol (fondly referred to as the “mounted patrol”) is an all volunteer unit and part of the Rancho Cucamonga Police Department and the San Bernardino County Sheriffs. They have been an active unit for well over 30 years. Their duties include patrolling the trails (which include the Pacific Electric trail and all equine trails in the north end of Rancho Cucamonga), assisting with equine rescues, reporting trail hazards as well as loose animals and suspicious activity. They also take part in special events such as: Safe Walks to School, Memorial Day celebrations, local parades, City Open House, and provide escorts for the annual ALRC Christmas Lights ride. They may also assist in traffic control and are subject to “call outs” by the sheriff department for special emergencies.

“Rancho Cucamonga Equestrian Patrol provides opportunity to attend functions and interact with the community, allowing kids to be introduced to horses—some of whom have never been up close to a horse before”, Joe Cowan fondly shares as one of the highlights of his experiences. He continues, “the training builds a steadfast horse and rider who are able to connect with the local community in a very positive way”. This works quite well with the Alta Loma Riding Club and our mission to promote and preserve the rural and equestrian lifestyle of Alta Loma and Rancho Cucamonga. While not required, many on the patrol are members of our club as well.


There can be a maximum of 16 members in the patrol and they are always accepting applications. Each member, both rider and their horse are required to certify annually. But the team trains monthly, honing



their skills and staying sharp for their various duties. These trainings take place at the Heritage Park Equestrian Arena. Certification tests for horsemanship of the rider and skills of the horse at all gaits. This experience benefits both horse and rider—increasing their bond while working together on the trail and at events.

As I mentioned earlier, this is a volunteer position and there is no cost to join. Each member, both horse and rider are given their official uniform. If you look closely you will see each horse wears a badge on their uniform regulation breastplate.

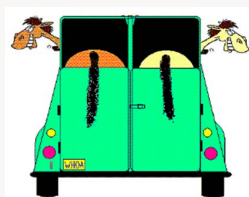
Charlene Ariza, the Vice Commander shared with Joe recently, “It’s the camaraderie of the unit while serving the community that is most enjoyable to me”.

If anyone is interested in more information or about joining the unit, they can contact the Rancho Cucamonga Police Department. Or better yet, feel free to approach members while on patrol—stop and chat with a volunteer as they love to share with people about their Equestrian Patrol experience and answer any questions you may have. 



# FEBRUARY TRAILER OUT RIDE with Julie *Julie Bradley, Trailer Out Director*

## Let's go to Perris!



**THIS MONTH WE WILL RIDE AROUND LAKE PERRIS.**

**DESCRIPTION OF TRAIL RIDE:**

**Date: Saturday, February 27 Time: 8am-4pm**

**Staging Info: Meet at Heritage Park at 8am. It is about a 50 mile drive to our destination at Lake Perris. There is a \$10 entrance fee. Plan to be in the saddle by 10.**

**Bring snacks/lunch.**

**Distance: 10 miles**

**Time: approximately 4 hours**

**Terrain: Mostly flat single track dirt trails, one long dam to cross shared with pedestrians and cyclists, one optional short hill climb.**

**Technicality: This is an easy ride as we circle the lake. There will be boaters and fishermen on the lake and a motorcycle track on the low side of the dam, but horses usually don't care or adjust quickly.**

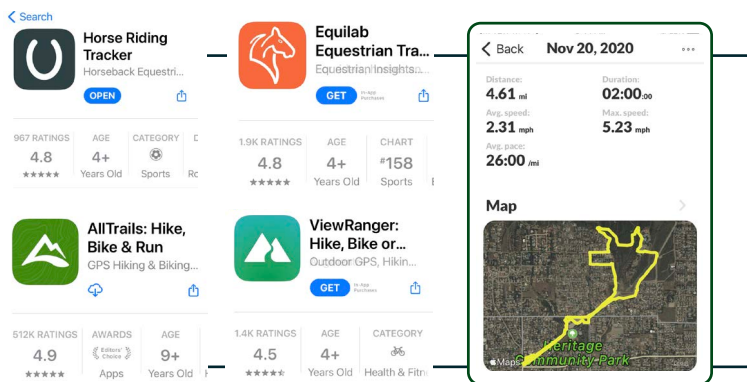
**Contact: Julie if you have questions: TrailerOutofALRC@gmail.com**

**No Stallion or Dogs on the ride.**



## Track your rides with Apps!

Are you making some goals to ride more in 2022? If so, apps can help you keep track of your time in the saddle. Most of them are free (with premium upgrades or in app purchases available for additional cost). The apps are very user friendly. Simply start the session as you begin your ride and stop it when finished. The apps map the course, record some stats, and stores the rides for monthly recaps and totals. It is great to see the distances of the various trail rides in the area, as well as the other info tracked as you ride.



## ALRC Local Trail Ride Recap • Wash Ride

*by Heather McGee Decauwer, ALRC Local Trail Director*

There really is something special about being in the wash when the clouds are low. We had 17 riders and horses join us on our wash ride that took their chances on the possibility of rain and were glad they did. Sure we got sprinkled on and there was a stretch that one would consider rain, but it was short and we had a great ride! Thanks all for coming out!



Save the Date for a  
*Very Special Evening*

Saturday ■ May 14, 2022

at Historic Chaffey Garcia House, Etiwanda

Hors D' Oeuvres  
and a Variety of Wines  
presented by our wine guy, Chris Starkenburg

More details & invitations to come!

Members \$75 per couple, \$40 individual



“To ride on  
a horse is to fly  
without wings.”  
– Anonymous

## 2 HORSE STALLS AVAILABLE FOR BOARDING

on private property 1 block east of Heritage Park.  
Boarders are responsible for own care, all feeding  
and clean-up. For further information contact  
Mary O'Neil at (909) 941-1352.

## Trail Course Grand Reopening and Trail Clinic—A BIG SUCCESS!

*Cassie Sanchez, 1st Vice President*

On Saturday, January 15, the Alta Loma Riding Club held a ceremony at the Equestrian Center to re-dedicate our wilderness trail course. The trail course has been brought back to life by Emily McGowan earning her Gold Award for the Girl Scouts. She and her father and brother put in a great many hours of work to restore the course. The ceremony was well attended by many ALRC members, Board members, the City mayor, Dennis Michael, and City Council members, Ryan Hutchison and Kristine Scott. The guests were served a continental breakfast. A special guest, Molly Mitchell, was invited to participate in the ceremonial opening. Molly and her husband (now deceased) designed the original course in the 1990s. It was a wonderful morning for the club and the city. Emily was presented with a special proclamation from the City of Rancho Cucamonga for her efforts on the restoration of the trail course and her contribution to the community. President Natalie also presented a certificate of appreciation from the Alta Loma Riding Club. Barry Berg then escorted clinician riders to the trail course explaining the necessary horsemanship to successfully navigate the course.



After the Open House, Barry and eleven riders participated in a day-long clinic in the arena to build better communication between horse and rider. After a lunch break in the clubhouse,



the riders and Barry rode down to the trail course and practiced their skills over the obstacles. Barry was very generous with his time and skills and devoted all of the proceeds for the clinic

back to the ALRC. Thanks to Barry and all those who helped make the Open House and Clinic a huge success.

# UPCOMING SCHEDULED TRAILER OUT RIDES!

Plan on joining the fun on an upcoming trailer out ride with Julie!

- 3/26 Bonelli**
- 4/30 Chino Hills**
- 5/28 Wild Horse/Big Bear**



Come ride with us!

## ALRC Executive Officers & Directors

**President:** Natalie Beechler  
email: PresidentofALRC@gmail.com

**1st Vice President:** Cassie Sanchez  
email: VicePres1ofALRC@gmail.com

**2nd Vice President:** Kara Haulman-Recla  
email: VicePres2ofALRC@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Charlene Ariza  
email: TreasurerofALRC@gmail.com

**Secretary:** John Sanchez  
email: SecretaryofALRC@gmail.com

**Membership:** Kate Bowers  
email: MembershipofALRC@gmail.com

**Youth Director:** Alanna Quinn  
email: YouthofALRC@gmail.com

**City Liaison/ALERT:** Larry Henderson  
email: CityLiaisonofALRC@gmail.com

**Local Trail Director:** Heather McGee Decauer  
email: LocalTrailofALRC@gmail.com

**Trailer Out Director:** Julie Bradley  
email: TrailerOutofALRC@gmail.com

**Food Services:** Joe Cowan  
email: FoodofALRC@gmail.com

**Publicity:** Martha Cowan  
email: PublicityofALRC@gmail.com

**Newsletter Editor:** Claudia McNeill  
email: NewsletterofALRC@gmail.com

## GET SOCIAL WITH US!

Be in the know! Make sure you follow us on Instagram and Facebook @altalomaridingclub for up to the minute information and happenings.



Support the businesses who support ALRC! Did you know that you can advertise your business in the ALRC newsletter too?

Owners Glenn & Cindy Mocabee, Friends & Members of ALRC

my **RANCHO FEED** and **PET SUPPLY**



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### TO BECOME AN ADVERTISER...

Contact Martha Cowan at PublicityofALRC@gmail.com or Claudia McNeill at NewsletterofALRC@gmail.com  
Business card ads: \$15/month or \$120/year\*  
\*Annual advertisers will also receive a printed copy of the newsletter each month.

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**Thank You very much for being a vital part of the Alta Loma Riding Club!**

Your membership makes a difference! We look forward to meeting you at upcoming events! Encourage your friends and neighbors who enjoy the trails and facilities to join us too!

**Happy Trails!**



## ALRC FEBRUARY EVENTS

<b>TUES, FEB 8</b> <b>7:00 PM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ALRC Board Meeting</li> <li>• Heritage Park Equestrian Center • Clubhouse</li> </ul>
<b>SAT, FEB 27</b> <b>8AM-4PM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trailer Out Trail Ride</li> <li>• Meet at Heritage Park Equestrian Center 8AM</li> <li>• Lake Perris, Perris California in the saddle by 10AM</li> </ul>



### Help the Alta Loma Riding Club protect and preserve the rural equestrian community in Rancho Cucamonga.

If you see any questionable or potentially dangerous activity occurring in or around the Heritage Park vicinity, please call the Rancho Cucamonga Park Ranger, at (909) 941-1488. You may also report such activity through the app: [RC2GO.com](https://www.rc2go.com)



## HERITAGE PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTER

A GENERAL PURPOSE EQUESTRIAN FACILITY  
Facilities are available for Shows & Clinics.

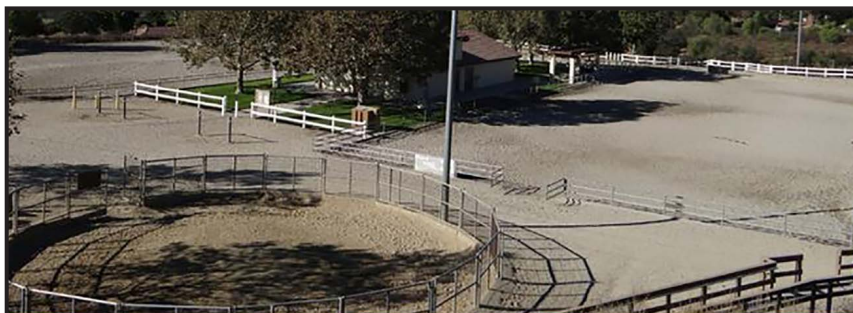
### AMENITIES

- Show Office & Clubhouse
- Concession Stand
- Restrooms
- Arena Lighting
- 2 Round Pens & 7 Paddocks
- South Arena 295'X150'
- North Arena 220' X 90' (Dressage)
- PA System
- Hitching Rails & Water Trough
- Trailer Parking
- Trail Course & Trail Access

**LOW RENTAL RATES!**  
**BOOK YOUR EVENT FOR 2021**  
**DATES ARE AVAILABLE!**

### CONTACT

Larry Henderson  
(909) 226-3956  
[altalomaridingclub@gmail.com](mailto:altalomaridingclub@gmail.com)



**EQUESTRIAN PARKING AREA:** In an effort to ensure safety and appropriate use of Heritage Park Equestrian Parking, a lock at the entrance gate has been installed. All ALRC members have been provided an access code via the email on file. We ask that you lock the gate upon entering and exiting the equestrian parking area. Look for the gate code via email and text, for further questions please contact (909) 226-3956 or email [altalomaridingclub@gmail.com](mailto:altalomaridingclub@gmail.com)



## SUPPORT & COMMUNITY

### ALTA LOMA RIDING CLUB at Heritage Park Equestrian Center

The Alta Loma Riding Club exists to promote and preserve the rural and equestrian lifestyle of Alta Loma and Rancho Cucamonga. Our membership is very important in continuing to impact our community. We maintain communication with the local city council and city planners to assure the trails and horse facilities we enjoy stay intact and maintained. We welcome you with open arms! It is not necessary to own a horse to be a member. If you use the trails and enjoy the outdoor lifestyle, ride or walk on two or four legs, by yourself or with your friends, pets and kids, then join us!

- ALRC Monthly Newsletter
- Organized Local trail rides and Trailer-out rides
- Special Events • Shows • Clinics • Social Events
- Members are invited to monthly ALRC Board Member Meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, at 7PM in the Clubhouse at Heritage Park Equestrian Center
- Quarterly ALRC General Member Meeting
- Opportunity to meet other local horse enthusiasts
- Be part of supporting and promoting the rural/equestrian lifestyle in our community!

Visit our website to join or contact  
[MembershipofALRC@gmail.com](mailto:MembershipofALRC@gmail.com)  
for more information



**Alta Loma Riding Club**  
**PO Box 8116**  
**Alta Loma CA 91701**

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[www.AltaLomaRidingClub.org](http://www.AltaLomaRidingClub.org)

