

ALTA LOMA RIDING CLUB

P.O. Box 8116 Alta Loma,
CA 91701

See us on Facebook

Bits O'News

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MAY 2020



CALENDER

Present's Message

I hope all of you are doing well in these unprecedented times, quarantine and social distancing. The Alta Loma Riding Club response to the Wuhan Virus was dictated by Federal State and Local Governmental Guidelines. As you all know ALRC cancelled all events and gatherings as well as postponed board elections. Our voting procedures are dictated in our bylaws which requires voting in person, which would violate the above guidelines. We will keep you informed as to when the elections will take place. Please consider volunteering for a position on the board. We would like your help. Please contact Martha Cowan for more information, 909-912-2117.

While the ALRC events are postponed, the Heritage Park Equestrian Center and local trails remain open. The club continues to maintain the arenas. It's been great to see so many equestrians using the arenas. We do ask you to keep social distancing as governmental guidelines dictate. Please feel free to use the facility and continue to clean up after your equestrian partner. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your ALRC board.

As mentioned above, we are living in a time that is unprecedented. Thankfully I have family and friends that I can share my thoughts with, some in person and many through meetings on the web. I also have two horses that help get me through the isolation. I find it difficult explaining the benefits of merely spending time with our equine friends to non-equestrians. They just don't understand how a horse can bring you peace and tranquility. How cleaning up horse dung can be relaxing. How when you are with horses, you immediately escape reality and all of your troubles just fade away. BUT, owning horses can be a double-edged sword. There are many that have lost their jobs or having financial hardship finding it difficult to feed their family, including their four-legged friends. Please be aware of your fellow equestrians, and if you or someone you know is unable to feed their equine partner, please let us know and we will do all we can to help. A Community Caring for the Community.

Board Members

- ◆ President, Joe Cowan
909-912-4319
- ◆ 1st Vice President,
Cassie Sanchez
909-987-8366
- ◆ 2nd Vice Pres.,
Pat Morris
909 987-9403
- ◆ Treasurer, John
Sanchez
909-987-8366
- ◆ Secretary, Martha
Cowan 909-912-2117
- ◆ Membership,
Ali Smilgis
909-702-5306
- ◆ Youth Director,
Clay Clements
909-466-8816
- ◆ City Liaison: Larry
Henderson
909-226-3956
- ◆ Local Trail,
Barb DeWitt
909-238-0336
- ◆ Trailer Out, Barry
Berg 909-944-9929
- ◆ Food Service, Ric
Morris 909 987-9403
- ◆ Publicity, Charlene
Ariza 909-980-8876
- ◆ Newsletter Editor,
Amanda Waterfield-
Gibson
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@gmail.com

Sharing the trail

With the weather improving and people getting fed up with being at home, many are hitting the trails for some extreme social distancing. Along with riding horses, there are quite a few mountain bikers out on the trails. While most bikers are courteous to our horses, some don't see us till the last minute or don't know how much they can scare some horses. Please be aware they are out on the trails too, and thank them when they are respectful. If they are going too fast or come at you unexpectedly, remind them that horses can be unpredictable at times and to watch out for us.



This in an election year for the Alta Loma Riding Club Board. President and First Vice President have a two-term limit, with a term being two years. All other positions are two year terms that are unlimited. Some board members have been in the same position for many years, and would like to change what they do. Because of the Covid 19 situation, we do not have a date set for the election; however, as a member of the Nomination Committee, I am accepting nominations for the Board now. If you, or someone you know, is ready to get involved in the workings of the ALRC, please contact me. We have a great time together planning and carrying out many events. It would be great to add some new faces to the Board!

Martha Cowan, Secretary

May 2020 Heritage Park Equestrian Center (HPEC) News

Hello to all. As we all know the Corona 19 situation has put a quash on all organized at activities at the Equestrian Center. Our maintenance activities have also been curtailed as well. Our observations confirm there is much less drop in use of the arenas and round pens. There is some trailering in activity of riders going out from there to the Trail System. We are encouraged to see that many are continuing to remove manure after their activities.

We need more volunteers for future maintenance activities. For example, more qualified Tractor Operators is desired. If your interested in becoming one of our Tractor Operators, please send me your contact information so we can train and test you to help in the future.

As always if you are passing by the Equestrian Facility and see something please let us know.

Have faith the current situation will pass away and after time be just a memory. We will get back to the activities we love and cherish (like the picture).

Please continue to support the ALRC with your Membership and involvement.

City Activities.

The City continues to process development projects, even though we are unable to attend meetings. In addition, we are having continued problems in receiving timely notifications and information. It appears the City activities are getting even less transparent during the Covid-19 crisis. The ALRC will continue to monitor and keep our Members informed during this trying time.



Wishing you all good health and blessings.

Lawrence Henderson, ALRC Liaison Director.

In these unprecedented times of the Coronavirus, the ALRC members are also left in isolation from one another and our club activities. No activities, no meetings with friends, planned trail rides, get-togethers, Club meetings, and missing those fine times getting together, cleaning up the park. Our general elections have to be postponed for now. The present board will carry over and perform their duties until we can have an election. If you would like to help out on the ALRC Board, let one of us know. We would love to have you as all offices will be open. There are so many wonderful and talented people out there. But, looking on the bright side, we now have more time to spend with our horses. It is wonderful to spend quality time with our equestrian friend, grooming, and cleaning tack and just plain old companionship. How about the trailer you have been wanting to clean out for months; maybe a good old washing and polishing? To occupy some of my new free time, I bought a puzzle of the four Arabian horses of the Apocalypse, a beautiful painting. That will take a lot of time! But that's what we have more of now.

Your club is still here, although in sort of a hiatus. Heritage Park is open, but please make sure you wear your masks and keep safe distances while you are there. Best wishes from your ALRC Board and keep safe!

Cassie Sanchez Vice President



On our down time...

These are certainly odd times for all of us, and as I try to figure out things to do to fill the hours (that don't include cleaning) I have been doing a lot more reading. Recently I read a very interesting article about a place in Kentucky called Old Friends Farm.

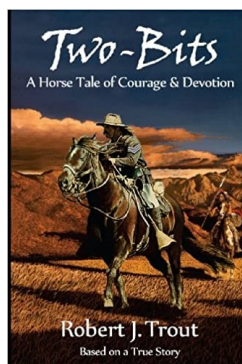
The farm started out as a thoroughbred ranch called Dream Chase Farm, but when the owner decided to sell and retire a retired Boston Globe film critic that founded Old Friends Equines bought the place and made it into a retirement farm for old race horses. He was disturbed by how many wonderful old racers were ending up in terrible circumstances



Ferdinand, winner of the 1986 Kentucky Derby and 1987 American Horse of the Year, was sent to the slaughter house after standing for 10 years as a stud in a foreign country. Since then, a buy-back clause is triggered when a horse has reached the end of his commercial value.

Old Friends Farm has almost 130 horses grazing on its lush acres in retirement. Silver Charm, who won the 1997 Kentucky Derby and Preakness, is now a happy retired 20 year old that is one of the most popular retirees at the farm. Visitors from all over the nation come to visit the horses there and hopefully spread the word that these wonderful athletes deserve a comfortable retirement.

Besides getting out and riding my boy Riley and walking my pooch Ozzie, I have been finding lots of old TV Programs that I watched as a child. One of my favorites when I was young was Death Valley Days with the Old Ranger. Turns out it plays on old TV Classic channels and also on Hulu. So, I have been enjoying some wonderful old true stores (albeit a bit dramatized) in the evenings.



One of the programs was about a race horse that became a Cavalry horse called Two Bits. There are books out there you can buy about him, but the program saw showed how he saved a lot of soldiers' lives when he galloped alone to the fort when his rider was ambushed and left injured. Apparently he was known for his devotion to his rider and getting the job done!

Another program dealt with an early outlaw in California that rode a White Horse and although ending up at the end of a rope, was well known for his riding capabilities.

So there you are, that is how I am spending my time while staying socially apart! I hope many of you are finding things to do and hopefully we'll be able to once again get together in our human herds and enjoy socializing again.

We survived the 1918-1920 pandemic and we'll survive this one!

HAPPY TRAILS!



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 we have at Heritage Park. The bridle trails that traverse our city were campaigned for by the Club when our area starting developing. Memberships can be paid via Pay Pal for your convenience.

Thank you to the following for your renewal:

- Jennifer and Craig Sommers Sue Arehart and Bill Jones
- Diane Arnold Summer and Matt Duffy

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. Our year runs from July to June 2019-2020

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

If there is no change to anything for a renewal, just write NO CHANGE for address, email, phone, etc

Name: _____

Family Members (children's age)

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) _____

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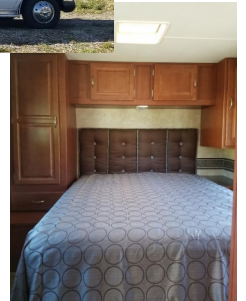
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