



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

ALRC NEWSLETTER • JANUARY 2024

# BITS *of* NEWS

The Alta Loma Riding Club Hosts

## CINCH MAKING CLINIC

**Saturday**  
**February 3, 2024**  
 at Heritage Park  
 Equestrian Center  
 Instructor:  
**Robert Eversole**  
 (AKA TrailMeister)

All participants take home all the tools needed to create cinches:

- Loom • 5-piece Tool Kit
- Instruction Booklet and your first cinch!



If you've ever thought about learning the craft of cinch making, join us to learn how to create a cinch for your own horse or create treasured hand-woven gifts for friends and loved ones.

During this intensive class we'll go over the following as you build your first woven cinch:

- Cinch Materials
  - Natural vs. synthetic
- Determining Cinch Size
- How conformation affects cinch width and length
- Knots to Know
- Cordage Length
- Building the Cinch
- Details & Design work
- After build care for your cinch
- Resources for materials to make more cinches

The clinic costs \$350 per person. A \$100 deposit per person is required to reserve your seat. Pay the remaining \$250 on the day of the clinic.

Please register by January 20, 2024 at [www.trailmeister.com/product/cinch-clinic-deposit-rancho-cucamonga-ca-feb-3-2024//](http://www.trailmeister.com/product/cinch-clinic-deposit-rancho-cucamonga-ca-feb-3-2024//)

and send your deposit by January 20, 2024 to: TrailMeister • PO Box 163 • Newman Lake, WA 99025

Questions?? Contact Heather at [localtrailofalrc@gmail.com](mailto:localtrailofalrc@gmail.com)

## ALRC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & POTLUCK

Friday, February 2nd at 6pm  
 Heritage Park Clubhouse

We will be hosting a MEET & GREET with our cinch making instructor, Robert Eversole, aka TrailMeister. Join us and bring your favorite dish to share. ALL ARE WELCOME!

### About our guest ROBERT EVERSOLE:

Robert is the creator of TrailMeister, an online guide to trails and horse camps around North America. He created [www.trailmeister.com](http://www.trailmeister.com) over a decade ago after dealing with the frustration of scouting trailheads when no information was available.

With over 3,700 trails listed, the site continues to grow. Users contribute trail information, GPS tracks, and photos of their local favorites.



Robert frequently rides and packs into the back country with his horses and mules. He is passionate about sharing information and passing along the knowledge he has acquired over the years.

He has written a plethora of articles relating to trail riding; many of which have been featured in horse magazines. They are available on his website. His YouTube channel also contains many great how-to videos. Additionally, Robert teaches clinics on cinch making, packing and riding in the back country where attendees can get hands-on experience.



# Happy New Year to All!

The Alta Loma Riding Club has many events and rides planned for 2024. The Board works tirelessly to keep the equestrian community alive and well in our city, by offering shows, play dates, clinics, and social events, just to name a few. Once again, this year we have partnered with the California Dressage Society to host 4 of their shows at Heritage Park.

On top of all that, this year our goal is to **REFURBISH THE CLUBHOUSE AT HERITAGE PARK!** The equestrian park, including the arenas and clubhouse, was built over 40 years ago. This past year, our City completed some much needed repairs on the clubhouse, including roof, wood replacement, painting, and drywall. Now, we will be giving the interior a much needed facelift! We are searching for licensed contractors of electrical and lighting, interior paint, and flooring.

To help us, and if you have questions about this project, **PLEASE CONTACT** myself, Martha Cowan, at 909-912-2117 or [Vicepres1ofalrc@gmail.com](mailto:Vicepres1ofalrc@gmail.com); or Larry Henderson at 909-226-3956 or [Cityliaisonofalrc@gmail.com](mailto:Cityliaisonofalrc@gmail.com). Thank you for your help in advance!

Happy Trails, Martha Cowan  
1st Vice President, Acting President

Calling all LICENSED CONTRACTORS for ELECTRICAL and LIGHTING, INTERIOR PAINT, and FLOORING!

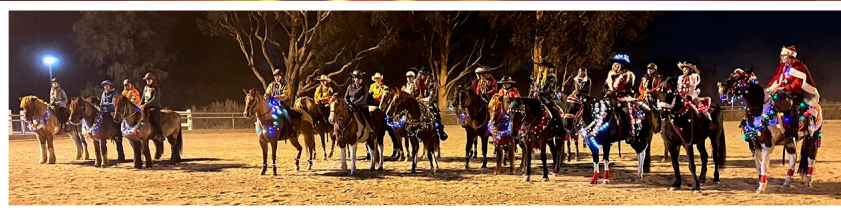
If you, or someone you can recommend, are available for this type of work, please contact our board members Martha Cowan or Larry Henderson!



## ALRC Local Trail Ride Recap Christmas Lights Ride 2023!

by Heather McGee Decauwer, ALRC Local Trail Director

Riders came from near and far (Apple Valley and Barstow) to enjoy our annual ride through the Thoroughbred Christmas Lights. This year there were 18 horses/riders and 3 mounted equestrian patrol volunteers. A huge thank you to our poop patrol, boots on the ground, mounted equestrian patrol and sheriff car escort for their help in making our ride successful!



# LOCAL TRAIL RIDE with Heather

*Heather McGee Decauwer, Local Trail Director*

## JANUARY RIDE • ALMOND TRAIL

Join us on Martin Luther King Day and explore the Almond Trail and fire roads in the hills. On a clear day it has great views!

### DESCRIPTION OF TRAIL RIDE:

**Date:** Monday, January 15

**Time:** 10:00am-2:00pm

**STAGING INFO:** Leave from Heritage Park at 10 am

**ROUTE:** Loop

**DISTANCE:** 5-7 miles

**TIME:** 2-3 hours depending on breaks.

**ELEVATION:** Route has some climbs and descents to get to and from the fire road.

**TERRAIN:** Mostly smooth, but could be rocky in spots (we do ride in Rocky Loma).

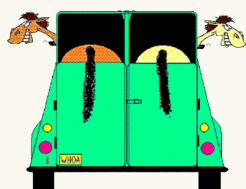
**TECHNICALITY:** Shared trail with mountain bikers and hikers, crossing streets, dogs and backyard activities. We love our local mountain bikers because they do a great job keeping up the trails and making new ones, but we do need to keep an eye out for them and demonstrate good trail etiquette.

**SHADE:** No

**PHOTO OPPS:** Always when Julie is with us.

**QUESTIONS:** Contact **Heather** at [LocalTrailofALRC@gmail.com](mailto:LocalTrailofALRC@gmail.com)

Please no ponying, stallions or dogs.



# TRAILER OUT RIDE with Julie

*Julie Bradley, Trailer Out Director*

**SAVE THE DATE! NEXT TRAILER OUT ADVENTURE**

**IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 17TH** Location and route TBA

If anyone has a suggestion for a trailer out destination or would like to lead a ride, please contact Julie Bradley via **Facebook** or [traileroutofALRC@gmail.com](mailto:traileroutofALRC@gmail.com). We try to pre-ride any routes to be prepared for the group rides.



**UPCOMING RIDES!**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**FEBRUARY 17** Trailer Out

**MARCH 9** Local Ride

**APRIL 4** Trailer Out

**MAY 4TH** Local Ride - **POKER RIDE**

**JUNE 15** Trailer Out

**LOCATIONS, INFORMATION AND ROUTES TBA** and will be available via **Facebook** and in the upcoming **ALRC** newsletters!

**Did you make some trail riding goals for 2024? Let's ride together this year!**

From <https://www.weaverequine.com/blogs/blog/gallop-into-the-new-year-setting-goals-for-2024>

# Gallop into the New Year: Setting Goals for 2024



As we bid farewell to the old year and embrace the dawn of a new one, it's the perfect time to pause, reflect, and set our sights on the exciting journey that lies ahead. For riders, whether seasoned equestrians or enthusiastic novices, the start of a new year presents a unique opportunity to rejuvenate and redirect your path. Let's delve into some inspiring New Year's goals that will boost your riding experience and foster a thriving connection between you and your equine companion in 2024.



## 1. Enhance Riding Skills

Kickstart the year by committing to regular riding lessons, a pivotal step in refining your technique and enhancing communication with your horse. Take it a step further by setting specific riding milestones – mastering a new discipline or perfecting a particular riding skill.



## 2. Health and Wellness for You and Your Horse

Prioritize well-being by developing a fitness routine that complements your riding. Focus on strength, flexibility, and balance to improve your overall performance in the saddle. Extend this commitment to your horse by establishing a personalized health plan, including regular veterinary check-ups, balanced nutrition, and a tailored exercise regimen.



## 3. Expand Your Equestrian Knowledge

Fuel your passion for horses by attending workshops, clinics, or seminars to deepen your understanding of horsemanship, equine behavior, or specific riding disciplines. Dedicate time to reading equestrian literature and staying up-to-date on the latest industry trends and advancements.



## 4. Create a Strong Bond with Your Horse

Forge a meaningful connection with your horse by spending quality time outside of training sessions. Whether it's through grooming, hand grazing, or simply being present in the stable, these moments contribute to building trust and strengthening the bond with your equine companion. Explore natural horsemanship techniques to enhance your understanding and connection.

## 5. Upgrade Your Gear

Evaluate your riding equipment and invest in high-quality gear that prioritizes both your comfort and your horse's well-being. Safety should be paramount, so ensure that all riding equipment is in good condition and meets necessary standards.

## Track your rides with Apps!

Are you making some goals to ride more in 2024? 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.

The collage shows four app screenshots:

- Horse Riding Tracker:** Shows a 4.8 rating, 4+ years old, and categories for Sports and Rc.
- Equilab Equestrian Tra...:** Shows a 4.8 rating, 4+ years old, and categories for Sports and Insights.
- AllTrails: Hike, Bike & Run:** Shows a 4.9 rating, 9+ years old, and categories for Apps and Hiking.
- ViewRanger: Hike, Bike or...:** Shows a 4.5 rating, 4+ years old, and categories for Health & Fitr.

On the right, a map screenshot shows a yellow trail route in a park area, with a date of Nov 20, 2020. The map includes statistics: Distance: 4.61 mi, Duration: 02:00:00, Avg. speed: 2.31 mph, Peak speed: 5.23 mph, and Avg. pace: 26:00/mi.

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

**BUSINESS CARD ADS:**  
**\$15/MONTH OR \$120/YEAR**

**TO BECOME AN ADVERTISER...**

Claudia McNeill at NewsletterofALRC@gmail.com



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**NEW LOCATION** 8673 A Baseline Road  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730  
In front of Smart n' Final in the Sunrize Shopping Center (909) 980-4408

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**Thank You for being a member of the Alta Loma Riding Club!**

Your membership makes a difference! We look forward to meeting you at upcoming events!

Do you know anyone who should be a member? Encourage your friends and neighbors who enjoy the trails and facilities to join ALTA LOMA RIDING CLUB TODAY!

**Happy Trails!**



**HORSES**  
understand the many benefits of community!  
**THANK YOU**  
for being a part of ours!!



**ALRC Executive Officers & Director**

**President:**  
PresidentofALRC@gmail.com

**1st Vice President:** Martha Cowan  
VicePres1ofALRC@gmail.com

**2nd Vice President:**  
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VicePres2ofALRC@gmail.com

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SecretaryofALRC@gmail.com

**Membership:** Kate Bowers  
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**Youth Director:** Alanna Quinn  
YouthofALRC@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

**Publicity:**  
PublicityofALRC@gmail.com

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



**GET SOCIAL WITH US!**

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

## UPCOMING ALRC EVENTS

<b>TUES, JAN 9</b> <b>7:00 PM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>ALRC Board Meeting</b></li> <li>• <b>Heritage Park Equestrian Center • Clubhouse</b></li> </ul>
<b>MON, JAN 15</b> <b>10AM-2PM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Local Trail Ride with Heather</b></li> <li>• <b>Meet at Heritage Park Equestrian Center 10AM</b></li> <li>• <b>Almond Trail</b></li> </ul>
<b>FRI, FEB 2</b> <b>6:00 PM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>General Membership Meeting &amp; Potluck</b></li> <li>• <b>Meet and Greet with Trail Meister Robert Eversole</b></li> <li>• <b>Heritage Park Equestrian Center</b></li> </ul>
<b>SAT, FEB 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cinch Making Clinic with Robert Eversole</b></li> <li>• <b>Heritage Park Equestrian Center</b></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**



## HERITAGE PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTER

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

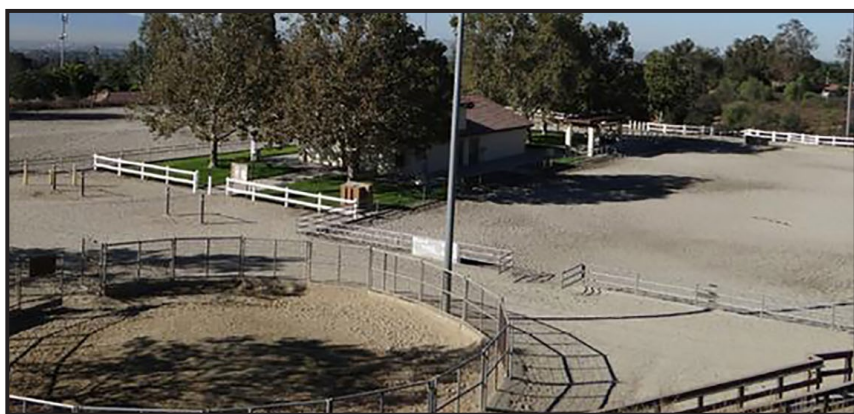
### AMENITIES

- 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 2024**  
**DATES ARE AVAILABLE!**

### CONTACT:

Larry Henderson (909) 745-4906  
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) 285-4342 or email 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  
for more information



**Alta Loma Riding Club**  
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www.AltalomaRidingClub.com

