

Poetry serves as a means of emotional expression, allowing us to explore our emotions and connect with others who have gone through similar experiences. In January, the Membership Meeting will be a Cowboy Poetry Gathering with our members as the poets. We will have more information in the January Newsletter. Mark your calendar for January 25th.

I came across a Christmas poem about horses that I want to share. The website I found it on suggested to change the names of the horses you know. As suggested, the poem has been updated to include the horse names of our Board Members. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do.

### The Night Before Christmas Written by Doris Elradi.

It's the night before Christmas and I'm out in the barn, Blanketing my horses to keep them all warm. They're eating their dinners, tucked cozy in stalls, Not aware that it's Christmas, or any day special at all.

They dream of spring pastures from their pine-scented beds

No visions of sugarplums dance in their heads. But we people are thinking of merry parties and such, Quickly doing our tasks so we don't miss too much.

This season is special, but the horses don't know. They munch on their hay safe out of the snow I finish my chores and head on inside To get ready for dinner and my family's yuletide

It's nearly midnight, the carols are sung. I remember a story told when I was young, How at midnight on each Christmas Eve The barnyard creatures can speak to us with ease. I am called to the barn. I slosh through the snow. I can't really explain; I know I must go. I slide open the door, and stand there and smile Then slowly walk down the dimly lit aisle. A nicker from Eclipse, a soft snort from Saddie, Sweet, gentle Pearl gives me a wink Vadar rustles his bedding, Apocalypse comes into sight Even Franky gives a greeting as I walk through the night.

I thought about parties bright lit and warm, The ones we don't go to cause we have the barn, And vacations and holidays that we usually don't get, Cause we have the animals and chores to be met.

Walking all the way to the end of the aisle, I stop to stroke Jersey Lily, and linger awhile She snuffles my face, hot breath on my skin And I look around at the others, my horses, my friends.

I could be at parties with laughter and mirth But where I am right now is the best place on Earth.

From Our Barn to Yours, Merry Christmas from ALRC

Heather

# Join us for our annual Christmas light ride!

#### **DESCRIPTION OF TRAIL RIDE:**

~Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2024

~Time: 6:00-8:30pm

~Staging Info: Meet at Heritage Park around 5pm and plan to leave by 6pm.

~Destination: Thoroughbred Christmas lights

~Distance: Approx. 4 miles

~Time: 21/2 hours

~Elevation: Fairly Flat

~Terrain: Trails around the neighborhoods and streets ~Technicality: Riding at night, vehicles, Christmas decorations, horses with Christmas decorations, jingle bells and other festive sounds.

~Other Info: this is generally a large ride, the past few years we had 20 to 30 horses and riders depending on how cold it is. The group will again be escorted by the Equestrian Patrol.

~No dogs, stallions, carts, or pedestrians.

~No leading or ponying horses.

Thoroughbred Holiday Lights Etiquette • Safety is our priority.

• The Rancho Cucamonga Equestrian Patrol has been asked to assist with street crossing and provide support in the high traffic areas of Thoroughbred and the surrounding streets. The Christmas light ride is our largest ride and not all the horses can make it across the street in one light cycle. We are thankful for RCEP for helping us safety cross.

• Visibility at night can be difficult for drivers. Please decorate your horse with that in mind and include reflective safety gear in your designs. This is a good opportunity to invest in your reflective gear which is now required when riding on paved roads in the dark according to California Vehicle Code 21300. This is your time to shine!

• This is a "Drive-Thru only" night. Please be mindful that the people in cars have likely been waiting for hours. Wave, smile, and say Merry Christmas as we ride by smoothly, so we don't block their view of the lights.

• The ride starts at 6pm. It's important to be ready to ride at the designated time. We coordinate with the Police Department regarding our anticipated arrival time. Also, understanding horses are herd animals, we don't want horses (or their riders) to get anxious when there is a large gap. For everyone's safety please be ready on time and stay with the group.

• Picture taking. Just like any outdoor activity, leave only footprints (or hoofprints in this case) and take only memories. Feel free to take quick pictures and capture your memories, but please don't plan to have an impromptu photo shoot to avoid large gaps in the group. If possible, we will pull off into a cul-de-sac for a break and more time for photos.

• Respect the homeowners amazing yards which take time and money to create and maintain. Please do not get too close to the decorations. If our horses spook or trip, they can do a lot of damage. There also may be cords that cannot be seen in the dark. Please stay in the street and not in driveways, up on the curbs, or in the yards.

# **Howdy Folks!**

#### **SNOW DAY!**

On Saturday, December 14th, the arenas will be open, but our parking lot will be impacted by the City Snow Day occurring from 11am to 3pm. We recommend you go early or late if you plan to use the arenas.

Saturday, December 14 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Heritage Community Park 5546 Beryl St.

A SNOW

Hula Day

SNOW PLAY AREA PHOTOS WITH TROPICAL SANTA CRAFTS | FOOD | MUSIC

Register for time slots at RCpark.com

# **Christmas Obstacles**

It is a busy time of year. Take a break and spend some time with your horse experiencing Christmas themed obstacles and activities. On Sunday, December 15, we will have a no stress obstacle course set up from 11am-2pm (longer if we are all still having fun). No judging. No stopwatch. Walk or ride or both! If an area is easy, do it backwards! This is your time. Go through solo or with friends.

Sample Obstacles/Activities: Mail a letter to Santa Deliver Packages Decorate the Tree Pin Santa's location Brave the giant Clydesdales And more!



In Memory of

John McMeill



John was supportive of Claudia and her love of horses. He frequently joined Claudia at club events and volunteered. John will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Our condolences to Claudia and her family. Claudia McNeill was one of our treasured board members that graciously brought her talents to revamp the ALRC Newsletter that we know today. In October, her husband John passed away.





## Alta Loma Riding Club Sponsorship Form

Name/Organization:			
Street Address	City	Sta	teZip
Website Address:			
Phone:	Emai	L:	
Type of Service:			
Years in business: Addi	tional Information:		
SJ	ponsorship/Advertiser	ment Options:	
\$10 \$25	\$50 \$100	Other:	
NEWSLETTER: Business Adverti			
	s) S15.00 each issue(you choo	se the month(s))	
Tests Transform	nmunity! Hang Your Banner at A		A State of the second
\$175.00 Hang my banne	r at all ALRC Events! (Jan-Dec)	<b>\$35.00</b> Hang m	y banner at the next ALRC Event!
Don't have a banner? ALRC w			
<ul> <li>\$75.00 make my 30" x 60</li> <li>send logo în high resolution</li> <li>publicityofALRC(@gmail.com</li> </ul>	" professional quality banner created by on in png, jpg, or vector eps file(preferre om	www.inkworksDP.com for ed) with any pertinent info	me to keep! to have exhibited to:
All application	and donations/sponsorship monies i	nust be received prior t	o show
1. Email completed application to: At	pleted ALRC Show Sponsorship A ttaLomaRidingClub@gmail.com and pay via idingClub@gmail.com, be sure to include sp	1 PayPal at https://www.payp	
2. Print and mail completed application	on with check payable to "Alta Loma Riding	g Club" at: Alta Loma Riding P.O. Box 8116 Alta Loma, CA 9	
	PPORT OF ALRC. YOUR SUPPOR QUESTRIAN COMMUNITY! ©	T HELPS US GROW O	UR EVENTS

### **ALRC Executive Officers & Directors**

**President:** Heather McGee Decauwer PresidentofALRC@gmail.com

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

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

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

Secretary:

Membership: Susan Csik MembershipofALRC@gmail.com Youth Director: Alanna Quinn YouthofALRC@gmail.com

**City Liaison:** Joe Cowan CityLiaisonofALRC@gmail.com

**Local Trail Director:** 

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

**Food Services:** John Recla FoodofALRC@gmail.com

**Publicity:** Natalie Beechler PublicityofALRC@gmail.com

**Newsletter Editor:** 



#### 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!** 

# GET SOCIAL WITH US! Alta Loma Riding Club @



### ALRC UPCOMING EVENTS

SUN DECEMBER 15TH 11 AM

- CHRISTMAS OBSTACLES
- Heritage Park Equestrian Center

#### 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** 





**BOOK YOUR EVENT FOR 2024** 

DATES ARE AVAILABLE!

altalomaridingclub@gmail.com

CONTACT: (909) 238-8803

### HERITAGE PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTER

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

- AMENITIES
- Show Office & Clubhouse
- Concession Stand
- ASK ABOUT OUR RATES! 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



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  $\cdot$  Shows  $\cdot$  Clinics  $\cdot$  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 PO Box 8116 Alta Loma CA 91701 altalomaridingclub@gmail.com www.AltaLomaRidingClub.org