



ALRC NEWSLETTER • FEBRUARY 2025



ALTA LOMA RIDING CLUB

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

BITS of **NEWS**

of PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have several things going on this month. Due to the wind damage and devastating fires in LA County, the decision was made to postpone our Membership Meeting - Cowboy Poem to February 22nd. That gives everyone another month to work on an original poem or find their favorite poem to share.

Saturday February 1st we will be hosting a clean up day. Volunteers have already worked to get the arenas open, but there are lots of twigs and other debris that needs to be picked up to get our park back to its usual beautiful state. ALRC maintains the park in coordination with our city agreement. Many hands make work light. Please join us and help.

Sunday, February 2nd we will be hosting a cowboy dressage clinic with Jessica Wegener. This our third time hosting this event. Beginners and auditors are welcome. Look forward to seeing you there.



Heather

The Alta Loma Riding Club presents
COWBOY DRESSAGE With
Jessica Wegener
Sunday, February 2nd
at HERITAGE PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTER
5546 Beryl St Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91701



Have you been interested in trying "COWBOY DRESSAGE" or would you like to just improve your skills?

Come join us for a day of Cowboy Dressage with Trainer, Judge, and Clinician Jessica Wegener. New to Cowboy Dressage? This is the perfect opportunity to learn! Familiar with Cowboy Dressage? This is the perfect opportunity to ask questions and receive feedback by one of the top people in the industry!



Clinician: Jessica Wegener

8:30 - 11:30 am Cowboy Dressage Basics

12:30 - 1:30 pm Lunch Break

1:30 pm Additional test maneuvers, and schooling test run-throughs

RESERVE YOUR SPOT:

<https://forms.gle/1skBmZ8JssaYHTMbA>

Limited spots, but still available

\$125 for Clinic and

Test \$25 to Audit

QUESTIONS?

Vicepres2ofalrc@gmail.com

ALRC MEMBERSHIP MEETING!!

Heritage Park, the Equestrian Center and surrounding trails have a lot of down trees from the recent winds. On January 11th, a couple board members went up to check out the damage and remove what they could to ensure the arenas and round pens are open for use.



There is definitely a lot less sand in the arenas and damage to the corrals in the parking lot. The south arena is closed for safety and to protect the base until more sand can be brought in.



Very grateful to Leslie Bronikowski, Julie Bessert, and Judy Brennan who saw us working, tied up their horses, and gave us a hand with picking up debris so the north arena and round pen could be used.

Another big thank you to Rancho Cucamonga Equestrian Patrol for clearing the debris after their training and Judy Brennan (who happened to be walking by again) on January 19th in the North arena so it could be tractored.



There is still a lot of work to be done. A clean up day is scheduled for Saturday, February 1st at 8am.



Equine emergency preparedness

UC Davis Vet Med shares advice on developing your individual disaster plan.

ALRC and Rancho Cucamonga Equestrian Patrol will be meeting with the City soon to discuss emergency preparedness. Later in the year ALRC plans to have a membership meeting to discuss this topic and share important information with you.



EQUINE

Emergency Preparedness

Develop Your Individual **DISASTER PLAN**

Animal owners, and especially owners of horses and livestock, must rely on themselves to take care of their animals in a disaster. Make sure your emergency plan includes the following 10 points:

- #### 1 IDENTIFICATION

The goal of permanent identification for your animals is reunification in the event you become separated during a disaster. Permanently identify each horse by a method such as microchipping. This should be done by a veterinarian and the paperwork sent in to register the identity. NOTE: the microchip is useless without the registration. Other humane methods of identification include an **ID tag** attached to the horse's halter or a **plastic neckband** engraved or marked with information. At the time of evacuation, consider additional temporary identification such as a **leg band**. In a pinch, you can spray paint your name and phone number on the horse.

Also, take several **full-frame and close-up photographs** with detailed descriptions for each horse you own. Record breed, color, size, markings, scars, cowlicks or whorls, and other significant features. Keep copies in a sealed plastic ziplock bag and store it in a safe place. Send a copy to a friend or family member so that the information is preserved in case of fire, or keep a copy in digital form on a cloud server for access from a phone or other mobile device.


- #### 2 HALTERS AND LEAD ROPES

Keep halters and lead ropes ready for your horses. On each halter attach a **luggage tag** with the following information: the horse's name, your name, email address, your telephone number, and another emergency telephone number where someone can be reached.


- #### 3 MEDICAL RECORDS AND PHOTOS

Place your horses' Coggins tests, veterinary papers, identification photographs, and **vital information**—such as medical history, allergies, and emergency telephone numbers (veterinarian, family members, etc.)—in a watertight plastic bag. Store the bag with your other important papers in a safe place that will be easy for you to access and take with you when you and your horses evacuate. An old backpack makes a useful storage container for "grab and go".


- #### 4 TRANSPORTATION

If you have your own **horse trailer**, keep it road ready by checking the tires, floors and hitch frequently. Make sure your truck is in good working order and that the gas tank is at least half full. If you don't have a horse trailer, make arrangements to have your horse trailered in an emergency. If you can, have several reliable people who could help with transportation in case one person can't help.


- #### 5 DO YOUR HORSES KNOW HOW TO LOAD AND UNLOAD?

It is vital that your horses are comfortable being loaded into and unloaded from a trailer. A stressful situation will only add to any existing loading issues. If your horses have not been trained to load and unload, **train or have them trained** and practice the procedure so they become used to it. A major problem in the San Diego County wildfires were horses (and mules) who were not trailer-trained, making it impossible to transport them to safety. As a result, some were left behind.


- #### 6 EVACUATION SITES/REFUGE

Know where you can take your horses in an emergency evacuation. Identify at least two (2) exit routes and a **prearranged destination**. If possible, make arrangements with a friend or another horse owner to stable your horses in a safe zone. Contact your local animal control agency or local emergency management authorities for information about shelters in your area. During mandatory evacuations, shelter sites for animals will be identified by the Office of Emergency Services.


- #### 7 BACK-UP PLAN

Have a back-up plan in case it's impossible to take your horse with you when you evacuate. Consider different types of disasters and whether your horses would be better off **in a barn or loose in a field**. Your local humane organization or emergency management agency should be able to provide you with information about your community's disaster response plans.


- #### 8 COMMUNICATE YOUR PLAN

Share your evacuation plans with friends and neighbors. **Post detailed instructions** in several places—including the barn office or tack room, the horse trailer, and barn entrances—to ensure emergency workers can see them in case you are not able to evacuate your horses yourself.


- #### 9 EVACUATE SOONER RATHER THAN LATER

Evacuate early, even before there is an official evacuation order. If you wait until the last minute to evacuate, emergency management officials may tell you that you must leave your horses behind. In this case, your horses could be unattended for days without care, food, or water.


- #### 10 SUPPLIES

Have fresh water and hay available for **72 hours**. Don't forget the water buckets. Prepare a basic **first aid kit** that is portable and easily accessible to bring with you for your horses. Also, prepare an emergency kit that includes water buckets, tarpaulins, leg wraps, knife, scissors and wire cutters. (See <http://cal-cares.com/personal-family> for what to include in an emergency kit.)





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Cowboy Poetry

Source: <https://blogs.loc.gov>

Screen-Free Poetry: Writing Cowboy Poetry Together

Cowboy poetry dates back to the late nineteenth century when cowboy crews embarked on long-distance cattle drives across the West. These journeys could last up to six months, and the crew would entertain themselves by singing and playing music, telling stories, and composing songs and poems.

These poets drew inspiration from their lifestyle and their diverse cultural backgrounds. Typical crews included vaqueros from Mexico and south Texas, formerly enslaved African Americans from the South, Anglo-American Texans, travelers from the East and Europe, and sometimes Native Americans. Many of the earliest cowboy poems and songs were in Spanish—including the oldest known cowboy ballad (from the 1860s-1870s), “El corrido de Kiansis” about a group of vaqueros on the cattle trail to Kansas.

In the 1800s, when cowboy poetry began, many cowboys could not read or write, and it was a point of pride to recite long verses from memory. Today, cowboy poetry continues to be an oral tradition, with performers coming together at various events across the West and around the country; several cowboy poets have even performed at the Library of Congress!

There are no strict rules to writing cowboy poetry, and it can reflect all kinds of experiences! It can rhyme, but it doesn't have to. It can be funny and light-hearted or serious and dramatic. It can be about a great adventure or an everyday routine.



~Join us at our membership meeting February 22nd at 5pm. Bring your favorite dish and poem to share.~



Damage at Heritage Park

I am Joe Cowan, while many of you know me as the cook, I am no longer the cook, but the ALRC City Liaison/ Facilities/ ALERT (Alta Loma Emergency Response Team, large animal rescue) Board member. As you can imagine, the last windstorm left a wake of destruction throughout the city, including at Heritage Park Equestrian Center. The Stalls in the parking lot have been hit by a falling tree and were damaged extensively, they currently are not usable. We need to replace 4 of the five front gate panels and 1 dividing panel. If you happen to have metal stalls that you would like to donate, or help with a cash donation, please call me. Additionally, the south arena had a great deal of its footing blown away and is not usable. **THE SOUTH ARENA IS CLOSED.** We are in contact with the city working on the solution, however they are quite busy mitigating hazards on the roadways. Due to the extensive loss of sand in the South Arena, we are looking into updating the footing with a mixture, less dusty and more stable. We will keep you informed to the status of the south arena. Additionally, I am looking for a quad or tractor in good working order, to assist in maintenance of the facility. if you would entertain donating it to the club, please call me.

As the Facilities Director, I frequently need volunteers to help at the park, this would include tractor drivers, people skilled in the trades, (electrician, plumbing, welding. woodworking, carpentry, masonry, mechanic etc.) and just people who want to help clean. If you are that person, please call me and I will put you on the list. We are having a clean-up day on February 1, at Heritage Park, please come out and join us. Coffee and donuts will be provided in the morning, we will start at 8:00 am.

ALRC ALERT

(Alta Loma Emergency Rescue Taskforce)

Finally, In the last couple of windstorms and fires, ALRC was prepared to respond to evacuate large animals, however due to the severity of the last fire, and speed in which the fire traveled, we are re-evaluating all aspects of our capabilities. I am looking for volunteers to expand our emergency evacuation teams, allowing us to move more horses (large animals) faster. You need not be a horseman, own a horse, or own a trailer, there are several positions on the team that **DO NOT** require that expertise or equipment. It is also not required that you live in Rancho Cucamonga. As a community we must be prepared to help our neighbors, or even other communities in crisis. As a member of ALERT, there will be training on policies and procedures of evacuating large animals, best safety practices, maneuvering and backing trailers, loading and unloading horses or large animals, safety around horses, identifying hazards relative to horse evacuation and hazards of the environment fire, wind, floods, etc.. Please text me at the number below, include your name, phone number, expertise if any, and equipment if any, to be placed on the ALERT Volunteer List. I will send out a text with a date and time of our first meeting and upcoming training events.

Thank you.

Joe Cowan (909) 238-8803



ALRC Executive Officers & Directors

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PresidentofALRC@gmail.com

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VicePres1ofALRC@gmail.com

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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  



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ALRC UPCOMING EVENTS

SAT FEBRUARY 1ST
8:00 AM

- **CLEAN UP DAY**
- Heritage Park Equestrian Center

SUN FEBRUARY 2ND
8:30 AM

- **COWBOY DRESSAGE CLINIC**
- Heritage Park Equestrian Center

SAT FEBRUARY 22ND
5:00 PM

- **MEMBERSHIP MEETING**
- 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**



HERITAGE PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTER

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

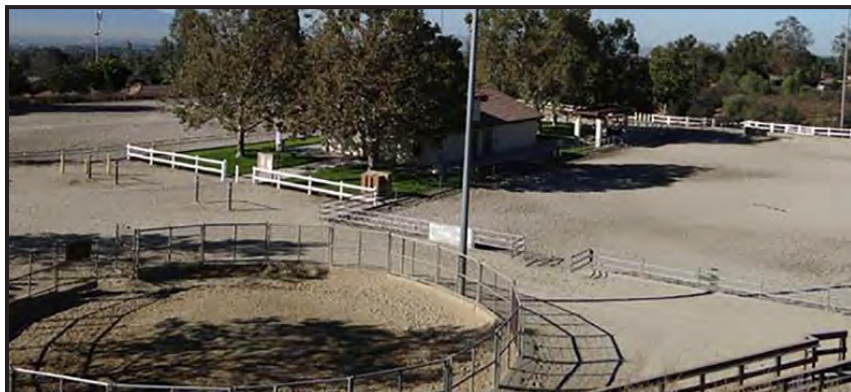
AMENITIES

- Show Office & Clubhouse
- Concession Stand
- Restrooms
- Arena Lighting
- 2 Round Pens & 7 Paddocks
- South Arena 295' X 150'
- North Arena 220' X 90' (Dressage)
- PA System
- Hitching Rails & Water Trough
- Trailer Parking
- Trail Course & Trail Access

ASK ABOUT OUR RATES!

**BOOK YOUR EVENT FOR 2024
DATES ARE AVAILABLE!**

CONTACT: (909) 238-8803
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



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www.AltaLomaRidingClub.org

