



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



ALRC NEWSLETTER • AUGUST 2021

BITS *of* NEWS

the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *from Natalie Beechler, ALRC President*

Bring forth Hot August Nights Playday and Tack Sale! We are so excited to bring about this event for everyone in the family! Find a new home for all your equestrian, western, camping related items! Watch or participate in our Playday classes and have some fun evening saddle time. Bring the littles as we will be showing the movie "Spirit" and have a real Mustang for the kids to come and meet & greet! Save your appetites, and don't forget to bring a few bucks, because Joe's BBQ will have some of the tastiest grub available for dinner—hope to see you there!

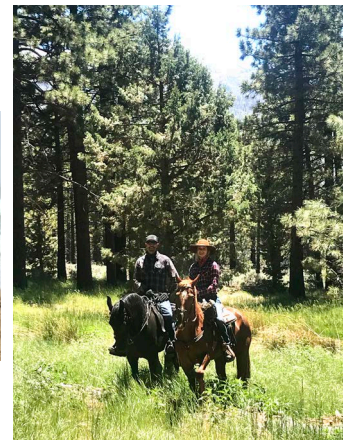
My husband and I love to escape to cooler temperature horse camps in summer! Weather determines the best time to go depending on the camp. Here are a couple of our favorite equestrian campgrounds to visit when it's hot, and one we have yet to explore! For those who haven't been, these are great places to cool off, unplug, and regenerate during the summer months.

WILDHORSE EQUESTRIAN FAMILY HORSE CAMP—offering beautiful mountain riding for all levels of riders, cooler temperatures, and whispering pines, this mountain get away is about 1 hour 45 min drive (with trailer) from Rancho. Dry Camp with bathrooms and showers, horse corrals and water available for horses.
www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/233685

MONTAÑA DE ORO STATE PARK—HAZARD CANYON HORSE CAMPS—Near Morro Bay, about a 5 hour drive (with trailer) from Rancho. The riding makes it all worth the trip as you have beach riding, mountain riding, and Eucalyptus forests to explore! Temperatures remain mild here year round which makes it the perfect escape from So Cal summer months. Dry Camp, with pit toilet, horse corrals, and water available for horses.
www.parks.ca.gov/pages/592/files/MontanaDeOroSP

TIJUANA RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL PARK CAMPGROUND—this is a brand new camp that opened in April 2021 offering 5 equestrian sites! We have not yet been to the camp, but have ridden at Border Field State Park and Fiesta Island where you can swim with your horse (30 min from the camp)! A little over 2 hour drive from Rancho, if any of ya'll make it here before I do—I would love to hear your feedback!
www.sdparcs.org/content/sdparcs/en/park-pages

Happy Trails!
Natalie 



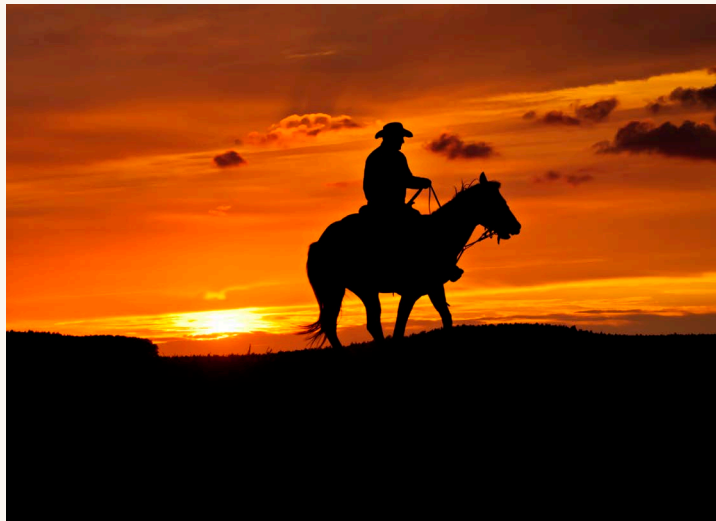
Fun rides and horse camping pix clockwise from top left; on the beach with Boney Joe at Border Field State Park; a couple of my friends on the beach at Morro Bay; bearback riding in Big Bear; and with my honey for a ride through Sugarloaf Meadow near Wildhorse Camp.

“Keep close to Nature’s heart... and break clear away, once in a while, and climb a mountain or spend a week in the woods. Wash your spirit clean.” John Muir

LOCAL AUGUST TRAIL RIDE with Heather

Heather McGee Decauwer, Local Trail Director

Trying to beat the heat, the local trail ride this month is a **SUNSET RIDE**. Friday, August 20th is a couple days before the full moon, so we'll get to enjoy both the sunset and the waxing gibbous moon. The sunset is at 7:32pm and the moonrise is at 6:51pm.



DESCRIPTION OF TRAIL RIDE:

Date: Friday, August 20, 2021

Time: 6:30pm–8:30 or 9pm

Staging Info: Meet at Heritage Park around 6pm and plan to leave by 6:30pm

Route: To be determined

Distance: 5-6ish miles

Time: 2 to 2.5 hours

Terrain: Relatively smooth

Technicality: Riding at night

Contact: Heather if you have questions:

LocalTrailofALRC@gmail.com

Please no stallions or dogs.

Controlling Flies in your Barn this Summer

Claudia McNeill, Newsletter Editor

Whether you board your horse somewhere or stable him on your own property, this practical information is vital in helping you control flies!

A peaceful summer day can be ruined by the nagging and relentless swarming and buzzing of flies! Horses swishing, stomping and biting at the pests can be equally annoying for horse and horse owner alike! So here are a few things to know and be proactive about as you battle to win the war on flies!

UNDERSTAND THE RISKS

Flies are more than just a nuisance. They contribute to all kinds of significant equine diseases and conditions, including strangles, influenza, salmonella, and summer sores.

Summer sores are caused by flies, as they transfer parasitic nematode larvae (*Habronema* species) to moist areas around a horse's open wounds, eyes, nostrils, mouth and genitalia. When the larvae create a hypersensitivity reaction, chronic, fleshy and non-healing wounds can result, known as summer sores. The condition is costly and can require months off from riding and training as the horse heals. Even leaving a small wound or cut not cleaned and covered can cause a severe summer sore. When the wound is exposed even for only one night, it can allow flies access, and by the next day it may be oozing and displaying proud flesh. Infections like this can require months



of treatment and daily bandaging, leaving behind an unsightly scar of twisted flesh.

Flies can also get in and irritate a horse's sensitive eyes. As they seek to find relief, they will itch insensately on just about anything, often resulting in injury to the eye or even a torn eyelid.

In addition horses' continual stomping and pounding can cause loose or thrown shoes, and barefoot hooves may become chipped or improperly worn.

IDENTIFYING A SOLUTION

Protecting horses from harmful flies requires a three-pronged approach: following best practice barn management, leveraging proven fly control products and outfitting horses with fly masks, sheets and boots for the ultimate protection.

1.) Follow best-practice barn management. Horse and barn owners can help control fly populations and eliminate fly havens by removing manure and excess feed, as well as any damp hay. Also ridding trash and keeping all your garbage containers tightly closed and cleaned helps. And most important, clean manure from stalls, paddocks and turn-outs daily. Keep the manure sites as far from the barn as possible and remove the manure from the property as often as you can.

2.) Research and regularly use trusted fly control products. Enlist proven fly control products to help combat the fly population. By releasing fly predators, wasps that lay eggs in fly pupae and then kill developing fly larvae, flies are stopped before they even hatch. A variety of fly systems, baits and traps can be very effective in helping control the fly population. Horses also can find relief from flies with feed-through feed supplements, as well as regular fly spray use.



3.) Outfit horses in fly protection gear. A wide variety of fly protection gear is available to keep horses safe from a fly's harmful, and painful, bite.

It is important, however, in the southern California high heat and humidity, to select fly gear that is breathable and light weight. If your horse wears fly protective gear such as a mask, sheet and/or boots, be sure to check and adjust them daily. Removing equipment at night and dressing them in the morning is ideal. Rinsing off fly gear periodically is beneficial too as masks, boots and sheets get very dusty.

Make it a priority to insure horses are protected from flies and the significant dangers they pose to their health and wellness. Oh, an added bonus—your neighbors will be happier too with your proactive fly abatement plans!



Read more about this at www.valleyvet.com/library/controlling-flies-for-a-more-peaceful-stable.html



HOT AUGUST NIGHTS

**SATURDAY NIGHT
AUGUST
14
@5PM**

**AND
TACK &
STUFF
"TRUNK"
SALE!***



FUN RIDING EVENTS & PLAY DAY CONTESTS!

Keyhole • Barrels • Dollar bill (W/T or W/T/C)
Egg & Spoon • Australian pursuit • TP Pairs
Simon Says lead-line

\$4.98 per class OR HOT DEAL all 6 for \$25

Email questions to Kara at VicePres2ofALRC@gmail.com



Plan to have Dinner at
JOE'S BAR-B-QUE!
It's always delicious!!!

It's all happening at
**HERITAGE PARK
EQUESTRIAN ARENA**



ALTA LOMA RIDING CLUB

www.AltalomaRidingClub.org

SUMMER FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



KID'S ACTIVITIES

**SUNDOWN MOVIE "SPIRIT"
POPCORN TREATS
FUN WITH GLOWSTICKS &
MEET A REAL MUSTANG!!**

Email questions to Alanna at YouthofALRC@gmail.com



SELL YOUR TACK & BUY SOMEONE ELSE'S STUFF!

***Sell out of your trunk! (or EZ-UP)**
Bring your new or used equine items such as
tack, clothes & boots! **AND EVEN** gifts, home
decor or camping gear. Sellers set up at 4pm.

Monetary donations for seller spaces accepted.
All proceeds from these monetary donations go toward
rebuilding obstacle trail course adjacent to Heritage Park.

Email questions to Heather at LocalTrailofALRC@gmail.com



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT *Claudia McNeill, Newsletter Editor*

Meet Barbara (Barb) Dewitt, a long time member and past board member of the Alta Loma Riding Club. I got to sit down with her for a wonderful chat. It was so great getting to know this very humble and extremely accomplished woman!

This delightful gal welcomed me to her wonderful home in the foothills above Heritage Park. “We moved here so we could have horses on our own property” Barb explained as she showed me around. “We built a barn, some paddocks, a turnout, and wash rack.” All now home to her two horses and one boarded horse on the lower section of the large lot. With direct access out the back to the wonderful trail system, she is living the dream that began more than 37 years ago!

In her early 30’s, and living in Upland, Barb started taking riding lessons at Lemonwood Stables (now Graystone). She fondly remembers with a smile, “I did not start riding as a child, like many have, but I always wanted to, so as a young woman, I began what would become a life long passion.” Shortly after she started riding, motherhood happened. So the horse dream would have to wait as three babies came over the next four years. But as soon as she could—with kids in tow, she got back in the saddle and introduced all three of her children to horses. As soon as each were old enough—they rode too! Now many years later she has introduced her grandkids to riding as well!

When Barb and her husband bought their Rancho property in 1988, she got to bring her first horse Trigger home! She owned Trigger for 10 years and during that time also inherited Peter, a wonderful former lesson horse from Rising Stars. Peter was 27 when Barb blessed this chestnut Arabian with the great retirement he deserved! Next came Rajah, another Arab she got from local Paul Miller who has since passed away. Today she enjoys her horse Pharaoh—a 26 years old gray Arab who has been in her family and living on property for the past 15 years.

Barb’s children all took riding lessons at Heritage Park Equestrian Arena and rode in the local shows they often held at the facility. “I didn’t ride much myself during that era as I was busy in my role as a horse show mom”, she reflects. Barb also embraced her other role as a 2nd and 3rd grade teacher at Carnelian School for 26 years! She loved teaching and she poured out her love and shared her life with her students. Inviting them all to her home for her annual Easter party complete with Easter egg hunt and BBQ! It was quite the tradition! She retired from teaching in 2014 and loves to see around town, her former students now all grown up!

After retirement, in 2015, Barb and three friends she met through ALRC and other horse connections, went to Greece together!! They stayed at a resort with horse facilities and embarked on an eight day tour of Greece by horseback!! They looped the eastern side of Crete from north to south and back. “It was the horseback ride of a lifetime” she recalls! After the tour, the four friends stayed additional days and continued exploring other Greek islands—having an absolute blast!!

Throughout the 1990s-2000’s she served Alta Loma Riding

Club as “Local Trail Boss”. And for many many years lead trail rides all over the area. Barb still loves finding a new trail to check out! Also in the early 2000’s she trained and competed in Endurance events, riding in mostly 25 mile competitions in Mariposa and Morro Bay atop Rajah and also Pharaoh.

Speaking of Morro Bay, Barb just returned from an eight day horse camping trip there last week. She took both of her horses, Pharaoh and Charlie, alternating the horses so she could ride every day!

Charlie, her newest horse, and Barb had an unusually dangerous introduction last year. Many in our community are well aware of this accident. In June of 2020, Barb had taken a young rider, Lana and her mother up to Acton to look at two horses. Lana selected one, Whiskey, to be her own. When the horse owner expressed hope that both horses would go together, Barb decided on the spot that Charlie would come home with her too! On the way back home down the 138 coming over a berm, Barb had to break for a car that was stopped in the road due to some construction. She felt something happening in the trailer so she pulled over to check on the horses. Barb found Whiskey precariously facing backwards with his front leg over the butt chain making it seemingly impossible for him to get righted. The center divider was up out of its position and leaning on the other horse Charlie. The last thing Barb remembers is deciding to open the escape hatch at the front of the trailer. What she doesn’t remember is when opening that door, she was met by a frantic Whiskey who had somehow quickly turned himself back around and thrust his head out the escape door throwing Barb back off the wheel well and on to the curb and pavement knocking her unconscious.

So many people quickly acted. 911 was called and emergency crew whisked Barb off to Arrowhead Regional Hospital. Meanwhile at the accident site, Lana and her mom were left to summons help. Joe and Martha Cowan rushed to the scene to help them all get safely home. Barb had eleven CT scans and spent the next several days in ICU being treated and monitored as she suffered a brain bleed, dislocated elbow, multiple fractured vertebrae, large hematoma across her lower back and several deep cuts on both arms. With the help of many many incredible friends and family she endured the very painful long recovery with lots of love and support, for which she is deeply grateful.

Also in 2020 Barb discovered and got to meet the full sister she never knew she had (thank you ancestry.com)! This is quite an amazing story of it’s own—you should ask her about sometime!

In the spring of this year, sadly, Barb lost her partner and husband of 45 years. And again her amazing friends and family carried her through this most difficult time.

Throughout all the good, bad and challenging experiences, Barb is quick to point out the sprinkling of miracles. In fact, I think this may be the secret to the joy that overflows a big life packed into this tiny 5’1” woman! She loves people and horses—that is truly evident! And a priority of Faith, Family, Fun and Friends (both 2 & 4 legged) are what I would describe makes Barb a truly remarkable and resilient person! I feel so blessed having spent time getting to know her better! If you see Barb out on the trail, or at an Alta Loma Riding Club event—I hope you get a chance to chat more with her too!

Pix include: Barb with kids and grandkids; on her 2015 trip in Greece; and with Charlie recently horse camping at Wildhorse in Big Bear.



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**


NEW LOCATION 8673 A Baseline Road
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 Supplies you need... for the animals you love...
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THANK YOU FOR RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP!
 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!**
 Your membership makes a difference!
 We look forward to meeting you at upcoming events!
Happy Trails!

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.

21in21
ALRC
IN 2021
CHALLENGE



Join the CHALLENGE!

21in21Challenge continues each month throughout 2021. All are welcome to participate, must be an ALRC member to be eligible for your name to be entered in monthly drawing to win prizes. Submit your hours to **TrailerOutofALRC@gmail.com** or in the **ALRC 21in21 FB group** on the 21st of each month. Strengthen your relationship with your horse and WIN prizes! Names will be drawn and prizes awarded monthly and announced on the ALRC 21in21 Facebook group page! **THE DAYS ARE STILL LONG SO...KEEP TRACKIN' THOSE SUMMER HOURS!**

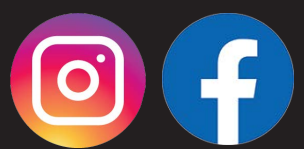
ALRC Executive Officers & Directors

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- Newsletter Editor:** Claudia McNeill
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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.



ALRC AUGUST EVENTS

TUES, AUG 10 7:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALRC Board Meeting • Heritage Park Equestrian Center
SAT, AUG 14 5:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HOT AUGUST NIGHTS • See page 3 for more information
FRI, AUG 20 6:30-8:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunset Ride, local trail ride with Heather • Leave from Heritage Park Equestrian Center
SAT, AUG 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report ALRC 21in21 CHALLENGE from 7/21 - 8/20 • To join email Julie at: traileroutofALRC@gmail.com
SAVE THE DATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday, September 25, 8am-3pm, Heritage Park • Fire Season Preparedness and Evacuation Planning



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.

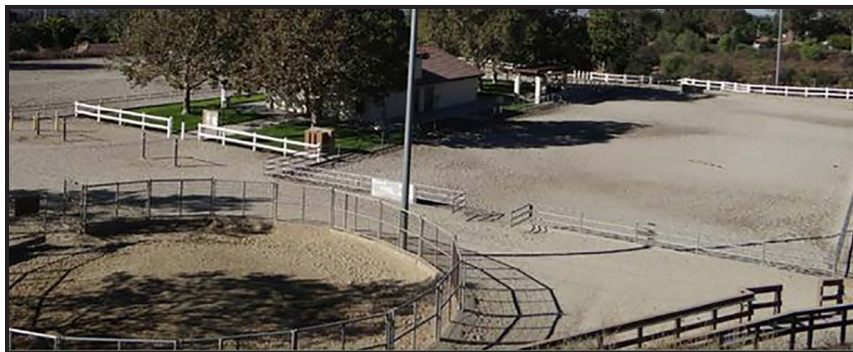
AMENITIES

- 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 2021
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) 745-4906 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!

MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES:

- 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

PO Box 8116

Alta Loma CA 91701

altalomaridingclub@gmail.com

www.AltaLomaRidingClub.org

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