



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hope, freedom and health have all been on each of our minds these past few months. Hope that our lives might not be affected by the pandemic, yet it has. Freedom, that of our liberties we have sacrificed for the good of all. Health, not just our own but our fellow neighbors, friends and foes, so they might remain in good health, so that we too might remain healthy. 2020 has been

more than a wild ride as we navigate our way through what I would deem an experienced riders trail. Twist and turns, narrow sometime impossible terrain, just as we begin to relax in the saddle a buck, spook or spin sends us gripping the horn once more.

Yet one thing remains steady, our horse. The buddy that can nuzzle your pocket for a cookie, use your leg as a scratching post, or sneeze all his snot all over your shirt and not have to wear mask. While we wait, not so patiently for trails, parks and campgrounds to open once again we can lean on our 1200 lb. companion for a hug, touch or a patient listener to our rants. We are blessed

to have an avenue that most cannot afford during this time. On the bright side of things not going out to dinner, shopping, movies and the like have given us more money to spend on our ponies. If you are anything like me sheer boredom has led me to shop every horse catalog, for anything that my equine could possibly use when we hit the trail again.

Happy Trails, Cathleen

## Save the Date

**July 10-15: Skillman Horse Camp (SOLD OUT)**

**July 25: Henry Cowell Ride**

*For details & more upcoming events, please see the Calendar.*



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# June

## RIDE/CAMP REPORT

by Cathleen Sittig  
President

### McCormick Campout

A heart felt thank you to Marianne & Mike McCormick for opening their beautiful ranch for our June 25th campout. We were all able to nestle under the newly-constructed campout grounds under the oaks, with much appreciated shade from the afternoon sun. McCormick ranch's cattle did their nightly walk through scouring for hay or possibly just to laugh at our silly horses reactions when they arrived on the scene. Sarah's dog Finn loved the cow visits as it gave him a job to protect the camps from the invaders, albeit the cows thought us the invaders.

While we were unable to enjoy our typical shared meals, we did get time to visit and catch up with members, as well as meet two new members, Heather Avis & Judy Gorshe, whom I hope will join us on future rides.

Friday morning, Brenda on Riley, Erin on Mary, Sarah on Radar, Mike on Seven, Diane on Ritz, Jayette on Topaz, and myself on Remington saddled up to ride the Los Flores Ranch open space reserve. It was absolutely a beautiful park, with rolling hills and picturesque views of the valley below, vineyards and somewhere beyond the marine layer was an ocean view. Arriving back at camp we were greeted by Toni with her two kids and Karen who did an impressive job of backing into their site.

A shout out to the Back Country Horsemen campers who shared the ranch with MBE, we hope to see you on some of our rides in the future, they were a hoot!





# Welcome NEW MEMBERS



- Heather Avis
- Aniko "Big Mama" Kannas
- Judy Gorsche
- Wendy Towner, Francisco Aguilera & Emiliano Aguilera (family)
- Barbara Riley
- Stephanie Lam, Ryan, Keira, & Emma DeVita, Stephen Lam & Ryan Delaney (family)
- Jourdan Murphy
- Missy Allen
- Jenn Ferguson
- Sarah Alm
- Sunnie Cunningham
- Robin Musitelli

*New members Judy & Chino, and Heather & Nokie*

## DEAR MEMBERS:

We'd love to include you and your horse(s) in our next newsletter! It helps us get to know each other and sparks conversation on rides. Please reach out to Stephanie at [s.lam@me.com](mailto:s.lam@me.com) for a quick member profile questionnaire.





# Gallery



We had a wonderful large group (16!) for the Fort Ord ride.



Want to see more pics from our events? Join our [Facebook Group!](#)







# Members of the Month



**Stephanie Lam**

**Other Family Member names:** Ryan, Keira, & Emma DeVita, Stephen Lam & Ryan Delaney

**My horse(s):** Fame, 11 yo Drum horse gelding. (Drum = Gypsy Vanner x Shire)

**What other animals do you have?** 4 dogs - 2 Pit Bulls, a Frenchie & a Pug

**What horse activities do you like the most?** Trail Riding & Horse Camping

**What hobbies outside of horses do you like?** I'm an artist; I'm often in my studio working on a commission or preparing for a show. I paint large portraits in oil. [www.stephanielam.com](http://www.stephanielam.com)

**Where is your favorite place to day ride?** Rancho Cañada del Oro in Morgan Hill

**Where is your favorite place to horse camp?** I've only been once so far! Joseph Grant was amazing.

**Any other horse clubs you belong to?** San Martin Horsemen's Association

**How did you hear about MBE?** The lovely folks at SMHA!

**Anything else you would like us to know about you?** I just started a YouTube channel of my adventures with Fame called [Happier on a Horse](#). You can also find us on Instagram [@famethedrumhorse](#). This is such a cool group! I'm excited to be your new newsletter editor; please reach out if I can help.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 2020

## JULY

### JULY 9 / GENERAL MEETING

7pm

Prunedale Library

### JULY 10-15 / SKILLMAN HORSE CAMPOUT

MBE & San Martin Horsemen's Association

Catered **(SOLD OUT)**

Host: Syd Blankenship

### JULY 18 / HORSE EXPO DAY TRIP 8am - 6pm

Party bus to Horse Expo at Rancho Murieta

Host: Cathleen Sittig

**CANCELLED**

### JULY 25 / DAY RIDE: HENRY COWELL, SANTA CRUZ

11am

Host: TBD

## AUGUST

### AUGUST 6-10 / MONTAÑA DE ORO CAMPOUT

Update coming mid-July

Host: Cathleen & Carolyn

### AUGUST 15 / DAY RIDE: MT. MADONNA

11am

Host: Toni Whedon

### AUGUST 19-24 / BIG MEADOW KINGS CANYON CAMPOUT

Open, make your own reservation\*

Spaces filling fast!

RSVP [pattihgarcia@gmail.com](mailto:pattihgarcia@gmail.com) ASAP

Host: Patti & Mike Garcia

## SEPTEMBER

### SEPTEMBER 3-8 / WRIGHT'S LAKE CAMPOUT **(SOLD OUT)**

Host: Liz Gheen

### SEPTEMBER 10 / GENERAL MEETING

7pm

Watsonville Community Hospital Senior Center

## OCTOBER

### OCTOBER 1-5 / LADIES CATERED CAMPOUT

Point Reyes Five Brooks Horse Camp

Guests Invited\*

Host: Cathleen & Sunday

### OCTOBER 31 / DAY RIDE: PEBBLE BEACH

11am

Halloween Ride with Catered Box Lunch

Host: Syd Blankenship

## NOVEMBER

### NOVEMBER 5-9 / RANCHO OSO SANTA YNEZ CAMPOUT

Host: Cathleen Sittig

### NOVEMBER 12 / GENERAL MEETING

7pm

Prunedale Library

## DECEMBER

### DECEMBER 5 / CHRISTMAS PARTY 5pm

Location TBD - *Guests Invited\**

Host: 2020 Board of Directors

### DECEMBER 10 / GENERAL MEETING (RIDE PLAN)

7pm

Prunedale Library

PLEASE NOTE: All events are MEMBERS ONLY unless otherwise specified.

\*"Open" Campouts/Rides are not MBE sanctioned events. Reservations are made on your own and are at your own risk.

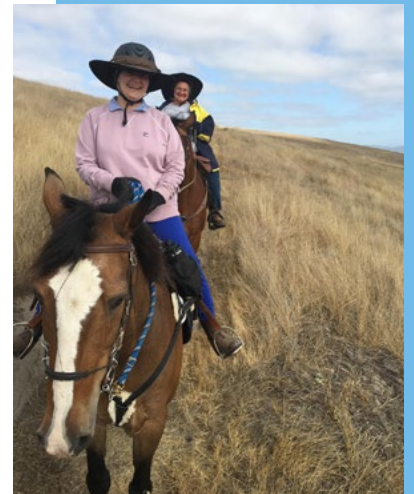
"Guests Invited/Public" Events are MBE sanctioned rides and guests are covered under MBE insurance.



# MBE RIDE RULES

1. For your safety and pleasure, we ask that you use common sense, and show courtesy and consideration toward others at all times.
2. Please leave sick horses at home. Any horse with a noticeable cough, runny nose, or any other potentially communicable illness will be asked to leave.
3. If your horse kicks, indicate with a red ribbon on its tail.
4. For safety reasons, organized day rides will be paced at a walk.
5. Respect our lands and stay on designated equestrian roads/trails.
6. Keep one-horse length between you and the other riders, and a two-horse length on narrow trails and hills.
7. Do NOT pass the leader of a ride if there is one.
8. Ask permission to pass a horse in front of you and pass quietly.
9. If leaving the group during a ride, advise the ride host or leader.
10. Horses should not exceed a flat-footed walk in camp or in a staging area.
11. No loose horses are permitted in camp or on the trails. Hobbled horses are considered loose horses due to their tendency to travel.
12. Wherever MBE goes, dog rules must be followed. Dogs are NOT allowed on group day rides. When in camp, dogs and other pets must be confined or leashed. Owners are responsible for their own pets' behavior.
13. Animals are not allowed in eating areas.
14. Do NOT litter. Carry all trash to a trash receptacle.
15. Follow any park/camp/facility rules as set forth by location of ride/campout.
16. No alcohol or firearms permitted on the trail.
17. Smoking is permitted ONLY in designated areas.
18. Just a friendly reminder that we have ride rules for a reason. We would like to respectfully ask everyone to please follow the rules for your own safety and to ensure everyone's enjoyment. Ride Hosts do not want to be the bad guy and ask members to please follow the rules. We thank you for your consideration and diligence in following these rules.

PLEASE NOTE: Rules are subject to change for specific rides & campouts which will be stated on the individual ride flyers for day rides & campouts.





# Classifieds

## SEEKING HOME FOR RENT

I am looking for a place to live: 2 people, 1 dog, 1 cat and vehicles. Anywhere between Soquel and north Watsonville would be ideal. Needs to be a free standing home not apartment building, too many motorized toys.

Ursula Worthen [alamarana00@gmail.com](mailto:alamarana00@gmail.com)

*Have something for the Classifieds or Announcements? Email a description and pics (if relevant) to [s.lam@me.com](mailto:s.lam@me.com).*



# Announcements



LAND TRUST of SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

## GLENWOOD OPEN SPACE IS OPEN!

Glenwood Open Space Preserve in Scotts Valley is now open for hiking, mountain biking, and dog walking. Equestrian access will be available in September or October 2020. There will be a designated equestrian parking area. For directions and park maps, visit: <https://www.landtrustsantacruz.org/glenwood-open-space-preserve/>