



AREA VII

Shetland Pony & Miniature Horse Association, Inc.

Fall 2010 • October, November, December



FALL 2010 • IN THIS ISSUE

2010 ASPC/AMHR Convention News
An American Shetland Look at Combined
Driving Events • Santa Cruz County Fair
News from Our Area VII Roving Reporter
Ranch News • Member News • And More!



6th Annual Spook'tacular
Oct. 23rd, 2010 Miniature Horse Expo & Sale
Oct 24th, 2010 Mini Schooling Show

Placer County Fairgrounds, Roseville, CA

Rain or Shine...Undercover.

Parade of Stallions:10:00 AM

Parade of Sale Equine:10:30 AM

Stall Fees: Pre-entry \$30 ~ Day of Sale \$40

NO Commission/Consignment Fee

Clinics ~Vendors



Contact: Pam Tobin (916) 791-7580

Merlene Olmstead (916) 771-0780



Food Concession On Site
Raffle

Free Admission
& Free Parking

Halloween Games, Prizes, Kids Activities
Costume Contests for Equine & Kids
Prizes for Most Original~Scariest~Funniest



Motels:

Oxford Suites

(916) 784-2222~130 N. Sunrise Ave, Roseville

Best Western Rsvl Inn

(916)782-4434~220 Harding Blvd, Rsvl

Extended StayAmerica

(916) 781-9001~1000 Lead Hill Blvd. Rsvl

Directions: From Hwy 80 East or West

Take Hwy 65 North

Blue Oak Blvd/To Washing Blvd Exit

Left Over Freeway, Left on Washington Blvd

Right on Corp Yard Rd (approx 2.6 mi.)

Left into Gate J

RV Overnight Parking Available
by Reservation

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Area VII Web site: <http://www.areaviiclub.com/>

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

23-24

**6th Annual Spook'tacular
Miniature Horse Expo & Sale/Mini Schooling Show**
Placer County Fairgrounds, Roseville, CA
Pam Tobin: 916/791.7580, Cell: 916/275.0875
<http://www.petiteequine.com/>

30

Valley Sierra Halloween Drive & Potluck
Neva Goodwin's Ranch, 11128 Weigum Road, Lodi, CA
Please RSVP to Neva: (209) 368-7512

30

Area VII General Meeting
Neva Goodwin's Ranch, 11128 Weigum Road, Lodi, CA
We will have a general membership meeting after the Valley Sierra
Halloween Drive & Potluck.

30-31

Clay Station Horse Driving Trial
Each day is an individual event; Minis go on Saturday.
Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA
Stan & Debbi Packard: (916) 687-7948
E-Mail: claystationhorsepark@frontiernet.net
www.claystationhorsepark.com/

NOVEMBER

4-6

ASPC/AMHR/ASPR National Convention
Little Rock, AR
<http://www.shetlandminiature.com/>



President's Report

2010 President Jim Curry

The past few months have been busy ones for all of us Nancy has been in charge of several activities that those who attended enjoyed. Unfortunately, the event she had planned for October 23rd had to be canceled due to several reasons along with the scheduled meeting we were to have there.

However, our meeting has been rescheduled and will take place during the potluck and drive at Neva Goodwin's on Saturday, October 30th. This event is actually an activity for Valley Sierra, but they have invited other clubs and individuals to participate. The drive is to start at 11 a.m., and the potluck will take place after the drive. Our meeting will be held at the conclusion of the potluck. The drive is a fun event on well-marked trails, and the food is always a real treat. Neva and Valley Sierra have graciously agreed to allow us to have our meeting at that time.

Nominations for positions on our 2011 board will be announced at this meeting and nominations will also be accepted from the floor. Our nominating committee member are Michele Nelson, Chairperson, and Kathie Peterson and Barbara Naviaux. Please contact one of the committee if you would like to serve or have any suggestions as to names of those willing to do so.

We will also be planning for our 2011 activities at this meeting and I urge everyone to attend if possible.—*Jim*

You're Invited!

Valley Sierra Halloween Drive & Potluck Saturday, October 30

The Valley Sierra Miniature Horse Club would like to invite all of the members of the Area VII Shetland Pony and Miniature Horse Assoc. to our upcoming Halloween Drive & Potluck at Neva Goodwin's Ranch, 11128 Weigum Road, in Lodi. It's about a 2 mile all-level scenic drive through beautiful orchards and vineyards. The drive will begin at 11:00 a.m., followed by the Potluck.



Neva will be furnishing ham and rolls. Please bring your favorite dish to share, and bring your own beverages. Please RSVP to Neva at (20) 368-7512 if you are going to drive, or if you need directions.

Outriders welcome. Guests welcome. No rain date. Tack Swap Table available (mark prices on items). Shetlands, Minis and Mini Donkeys are all welcome. Plenty of parking for both cars and trailers. The more the merrier! See you there!

—*Barbara Naviaux*

ASPC/AMHR 2010 Annual Convention

November 4–6, Little Rock, AR

ADS Driving Seminar with Maureen Harkcom

As part of my ADS Shetland Breed Steward goals, I was able to work with the ASPC/AMHR Convention organizers and get the 4th Seminar dedicated to the American Driving Society/Combined Driving/Carriage Driving with Maureen Harkcom as the Presenter. She will be sharing with many more people, nationwide, the advantages to our minis and ponies the ADS has to offer. This is about as exciting as it gets! For the people who have not met her yet nor have a concept of what Happ's (www.happs-inc.com) is all about, this is a tremendous opportunity for one of the strongest and most influential advocates of the small equine as vital competitors in the Combined Driving world. There are still some events that have not recognized the VSE nor offer the division in their CDEs. Maureen is their champion. Her knowledge and experience spans many years.

Recently at the VSE Driving Trial at Happ's and due to the undying support, appreciation and admiration for Maureen, the Miniature Horse community of the Northwest passed a hat and nearly \$300 in cash was collected to pay for Maureen's trip expenses. The American Driving Society graciously offered to pay her air fare. It's an exciting time for the small equine with the effort Maureen is putting forth to promote and include our minis and ponies as equals with the big horses.

The American Driving Society will be sending their brand new booth, first used at WEG, to Little Rock for the ASPC/AMHR convention. Maureen, myself and Pam Ripperda (AMHR Breed Steward) will be manning the booth during Convention.

—Diane Zmolek, ADS Shetland Breed Steward

Sue Price Memorial Creativity Contest 2010

This contest is open to all ASPC/AMHR members of the ages listed. This is your opportunity to express your love of small equine without going into the show ring.

There are seven creative categories divided by ages: Adult 18 and older, Youth ages 13 to 17, and Youth ages 6 to 12.

The categories are: Artwork, Black & White; Artwork, Color; Artwork, Fabric; Artwork, Miscellaneous (any medium not specifically listed); Photography, Black & White; Photography, Color; Literary; and Humorous, any medium. There will also be two People's Choice Awards for overall favorite in Adult and Youth.

Please tag your entry on the front with the title and category, and provide your name, address, membership number, and age if applicable on an index card (or similar) attached to the back of your entry.

Entries should be sent directly to the current convention location (Little Rock, AR) clearly marked "ASPC/AMHR Convention Creativity Contest." Entries will be displayed and voted on during the convention. Entries must provide return postage (in the form of correct postage, no cash, no checks) if they wish their entry to be returned. If you or a friend is attending the convention entries may be delivered and retrieved personally.

Winners will be announced at the convention during the Saturday morning awards ceremony. All ASPC/MHR members attending the convention will have an opportunity to vote. Winners will be notified by mail and the National Office will issue the monetary awards.

—Merry Wickie



An American Shetland Look at Combined Driving Events

By Diane Zmolek,
ADS Breed Steward/American Shetland Pony

Come with me on a journey of exploring and searching for more excitement, better health, great learning and challenges, not only for yourself but for your Shetland. Come along as I venture into a world of possibility; a passionate pony gal introduced into a whole new realm of opportunities geared towards days, weeks and years of partnering with my driving ponies in a fun, self challenging venue like nothing I have ever seen before.

My invitation and introduction to the world of Combined Driving Events (CDE) began with Miniature Horse friends asking me to pay my entry, bring a pony and come along to an Intro to CDE Clinic at Happ's, located in Ethel, Washington. First, I had never heard of the place nor could I imagine a private facility dedicated to cross country events of the size and scope I was hearing about. With little coercion, these friends convinced me I would have a great time and it would get me out of the rut I was stuck in. I had no idea what to expect, but I decided to set aside old habits and *go!*

The magic began; but the familiarity and security of the breed shows was nowhere to be found. I felt isolated with my American Shetland, Flip, since everyone else was driving Miniatures, Haflingers, or Friesans. Something was wrong with this picture. I just didn't know what it was at the time. Flip had, up to this point, a spectacular breed show career as a Classic Open Pleasure pony. He knew the shiny, black, pinstriped Jerald show cart with pneumatic tires and he knew well the upheaded, collected, extended pleasure trot with the overcheck rein and bit. We were proud that he had nice "action" for a Classic. What more was there? That is what I was hoping this clinic would begin to unravel in my mind.

During the clinic, the verbiage I was familiar with over all my years in horses and ponies disappeared. Instead, new words like dressage, counter bent, cones, meters, kilometers, carriages, sections, marathon, penalties, obstacles, hazards, speeds, times, and the most ominous word of all, NAVIGATOR, crowded my brain. It felt like overload at times, particularly when the clinician at that first Intro clinic emphasized Dressage and we actually had to memorize a pattern, perform it the next day and be



MARSHA WRIGHT, AUMSVILLE, OR

judged. Although I came home discouraged, I could not shake my curiosity, and kept asking myself, what is a Navigator? My Miniature friends had never mentioned Navigator and I didn't see them having to load a second person on their cart. But then, they were Minis and their division was called Very Small Equine (VSE). I kept asking myself; how was this all going to work? Reading about it made even less sense, but I persisted.

In the summer of 2009, I figured

DZ Flip the Coin, September 18, 2010 at the Happ's Driving Trial. Our first official competition. Never had such a GREAT time!

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Combined Driving Events

(Continued from page 7)

it would be fun to be a spectator at a bona fide CDE. A good friend of mine was visiting from California and we made the trek to Beaver Creek, Oregon on Marathon Day. We were both excited and ready to absorb as much knowledge as possible, especially to figure out this Navigator thing where it concerned our Shetlands—and we did. We saw first hand that a Navigator either sat next to the driver of a two-wheeled cart or stood on a low ledge on the back of a four-wheeled carriage, coaching and assisting the driver during the Marathon portion of the competition.

In CDE, Shetlands are part of the PONY family, albeit Small Pony, along with Haflingers, Welsh, Fjords and others. Even though our guys are a third the size of some of them, a Shetland or any pony over 39" is required to carry a Navigator. Someone with far more knowledge than I must know the Shetland's capabilities, but my reservations were mounting.

The next event I attended was as a volunteer at a Happ's Driving Trial. I learned first hand what more of the different competitions looked like, how the people managed their time, and the performance levels of the horses, still with great reservations of stepping into a foreign, highly athletic world of equines. Maybe WE were too old.

By early winter, someone suggested that I bring my pony and attend an Arena Driving Trial. It is allegedly a much reduced version of some of the things you encounter at a CDE performed inside a covered arena. Weather is not an issue and some of the rigid rules are modified at the discretion of the organizer. The attendance is open to everyone, low key, and very much geared towards newcomers. We loaded up our stuff, an everyday harness, our easy-entry cart and off we went to see if participating answered more questions. Once again, here were my Mini friends driving their darling, snappy little equines around solo. I couldn't imagine why we weren't part of the Very Small Equine group; after all, our Shetlands only weighed maybe 75–150 pounds more than they did, and in some cases were only a couple of inches taller. Miraculously, I memorized the Dressage Pattern, although my presentation wasn't pretty. I managed to "win" the Cone Killer award, which was a very nice award but came with the dubious honor of knocking the most tennis balls off the top of the cones as we passed between sets of two. We couldn't have been off to a worse start. We still loved our great American Shetland, Flip, and knew there had to be better days ahead, but the puzzle pieces just didn't seem to be falling into place. Home was looking mighty good.

We managed to make it to one more Arena Driving Trial in the winter. With an extremely high score (a low score is much sought after—like golf) and an expensive flat tire on our way home, our Discourage Meter needle was tilted to the far right. Maybe this wasn't all it was cracked up to be, for US. The attraction was there, and the curiosity persisted. I knew there were hundreds of people new to the sport having a ball and everyone was unbelievably helpful. It seemed like they all knew so much and we would never catch up.

The next step was to get rid of some of the jitters and apprehension, as well as figure out what was going so wrong when asking my pony to make the tight turns around obstacles and through the cones course. Even though it didn't seem to be



MARSHA WRIGHT, AUMSVILLE, OR

working, the pace and action was still very invigorating. A private training session with Terri Jones was fabulous. I felt it cemented the possibilities in my mind. The problem was that this was way too new for Flip, and my expectations were too high. But my resolve faded and I didn't make any more of the series of ADTs. The nagging issue of the Navigator wasn't coming to any resolution, and I resigned myself to few possibilities in CDE.

Many months later, I got an email from Maureen Harkcom, owner and organizer of all of the spectacular events at Happ's. She had taken on the task of assembling a roster of Breed Stewards within the American Driving Society (ADS) to create co-partnerships with the various breed organizations. Her inquiry was soliciting either my interest or a referral to someone to act on behalf of the American Shetland. Without hesitation, I imagined myself fulfilling that role since my passion for these ponies consumes me and without hesitation I raised my hand and accepted the challenge.

Immediately I went to work contacting the necessary people within ASPC who could facilitate this mutually beneficial union between the two organizations. I could see such exciting possibilities for all Shetland enthusiasts and a bright future for ponies whose breed show careers had either ended or never started. This was going to reignite the spark that made our ponies the great little animals they are and embrace a whole segment of the population all over the country.

This spark is coming full circle. Since that unexpected email, I have attended another CDE as a spectator, feeling bold enough to venture around the course and observe the vet checks. I have participated in my second Intro to CDE clinic under the tutelage of Robert Griswold. The repetition has been as good for me as it has been for a pony in training. Having the good fortune of Laura Hill sharing her advice and riding in the cart with me at Happ's, and Linda Thomas being kind enough to help Flip go through the creek, were momentous experiences. Getting hundreds of questions answered by Merridy Hance has been the prescription for looking at new horizons. But the best fun was having Carol Bowersock take Flip's heart rate and then conning Frances Bowersock to go on the marathon course with me, discovering after long trots over bridges, through creeks and gullies, and up embankments, that a Shetland *can* and will haul a driver and a Navigator all over the countryside, maintain a perfect heart rate and be ready to go again.

This is exciting stuff, open to all who seek a higher level of excitement, achievement and fun. Presently, I have set aside the Navigator concerns, am researching some of the lighter carriages available and am looking forward to meeting all the people who give the greatest care to their animals and embrace this sport. Come join us. You'll never look back.



Frances Bowersock, Diane, and Flip crossing the creek for the first time.



Bev White and her Shetland, Duchess, with Gabe Garnica, Navigating. AWESOME!

The Santa Cruz County Fair Pony Show

by Joan Clements

September 18th dawned overcast and crisp, pretty normal for Watsonville. The morning fog usually burns off by noon, and actually helps to keep the day from becoming too warm. The afternoon breeze was appreciated.

Thirteen Classic Shetlands participated and three Miniature Horses competed in the Open Classes. Traveling the furthest (six hours one way) was **Regina Nelson** and her crew. She brought several Shetlands. One of the ponies was Step-n-Stone's Silver Feather, owned by **Howard and Shirley Busbee**. This beautiful Senior Stallion took two Grand Champions and in doing so, earned his Hall of Fame status in Halter. "Feather" also won two Stake Awards in Pleasure Driving, and also did well in the Obstacle and Jumper In Hand Classes.

Step-n-Stone's Golden Trinket was also shown by Regina, (owned by **Anna Lu Parrish**, Regina's grandmother). "Trinket" received Sr. Mare Champion and Grand Champion from both judges. She also placed well in In-Hand Halter Obstacle, Obstacle Driving, two Country Pleasure Driving Classes, and two Roadster Classes. Everyone misses Anna Lu and hopes that she will be able to return to arena next season.

Nancy Turner sent her Sr. Mare, Wauk-A-Way Dinah Mite, to be shown by Regina. "Dinah" received Champion and Grand Champion Sr. Foundation Mare from both judges.

Sherry Ward came from Merced with her beloved "son," DZ Big Dash-A-Tabaska. He wiped out the Sr. Gelding Class with both judges awarding him first, Champion, and Grand Champion. This was his first year in driving classes and he presented like an old pro. Sherry looked spiffy in her beautiful Country Pleasure outfit with a lovely hat created by **Heidi Jensen**. "Dash" also did well in Liberty, showing great motion and a perfect, instant catch.

Joan Clements entered Whisper's Sir Nicholas (aka "Nikki") in six different driving classes. She was pleased with his performances, taking a couple of firsts and several seconds and thirds. Thanks to Heidi Jensen who helped out as groom and warm-up driver for Nikki. Heidi will be showing her own ponies again next season.

Mimi Woolem came with Fog Ranch's Puff-N-Stuff, a mare she co-owns with her mom **Pat Michaelssen**. "Puff" took a Sr. Mare Reserve Champion from both judges and one Reserve Grand Champion. Mimi was also busy showing Fog Ranch's



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(831) 684-1555

Wave Dancer (owned by **Pat**), who did very well indeed in three Pleasure Driving Classes. Mimi also placed nicely in Amateur Showmanship. Oneka's Shez'n American Dream (aka "Candy"), owned by both ladies, placed well in Pleasure Driving Obstacle and two Country Pleasure Driving Classes.

Julie Mabie brought several ponies: Wauk-A-Way Hurricane Holly, Whisper's Patience, Whisper's Sundance Kid, and Whisper's Putting On The Ritz (aka "Spats") owned by **Helga Atkins**. "Patience" took two Championships and one Res. Grand Champion in the Jr. Mare halter classes. "Kid" placed well in Liberty, Adult Jumping, and two Roadster classes. "Spats" took one Sr. Gelding Reserve Champion and one Reserve Grand Champion. He also placed in Liberty, all under the guidance of **Laura Newell**.

When not in the arena, Julie was very busy managing the show, which was deemed a success by all. A host of excellent volunteers kept the show running smoothly. Of course esteemed long time announcer **Ken Mabie** always does well, and adds a variety of music to fill any void spots. He is very much appreciated for his time and talent.

The judges were Cindy Carlson and Gail Sarich. Were happy to welcome ASPC Steward Nancy Ellis to the show once again. Thanks must be given to Julie Mabie and Joan Clements, who have been putting this show together for about fifteen years.



Mimi Woolem and Danny show how it's done in the Amateur Showmanship class.



Wauk-A-Way Dinah Mite stole the show in the Liberty class.



Spats and Laura Newell on the jump course.



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News from our Area VII Roving Reporter

by *Big Dasha Tabasca*

Dash, your Rovin' Reporter Pony here again! During the hot weather, mom and I did more loafin' than rovin', so I don't have a lot of travels to report. But I would like to tell you about travelin' back to Watsonville for the Santa Cruz Fair Pony Show.

This show was my first time driving in competition, other than that scurry stuff, and it was a pretty big deal for Mom. She's had people teachin' her since I was a yearling, but she and I have purty much done all the work together. Mom and I are a team, and she thinks I am just *the best*, so I always try really hard to please. Miss Heidi decorated a hat for Mom that was mighty fancy for the occasion and Mom got all dressed up real nice. Mom had some real bad luck with the harness dealer which led to a bad last minute surprise and no way to fix it. So Mom and her helper did the best they could, but it was still somethin' the judges say is illegal. One of the judges was nice to say I did my job fine, and she quietly told Mom and our header where we would have placed. But it's not right for me to say nuthin' about what coulda-been, since our efforts don't count by the rules, and mom and I, we play by the rules. We wish we hadn't been trustin' someone would do what we asked on the tack modification part of this thing that Mom calls my debut, but I guess it wasn't as important to them as it was to us.



Perfect catch!

But also did the halter classes too, even though Mom thought I was still a tad rounder than she likes, cuz the vet recently figured out I've been needin' some fixin' on my thyroid, whatever that is! She was thinkin' about "scratchin'" me, and I know she didn't mean a tummy rub! I thought I looked pretty good, so I just gave them judges my best proud and charmin' performance, and I guess it worked, cuz I got rewarded with Grand Champion. Mom was pretty happy with me for that too! If Mom's happy, I'm happy!

Mom enters me in this other class they call Liberty where they turn us ponies free in the arena. They put on music and we run around and basically get to show ourselves off without a human crampin' our style in any way. Some of

the ponies are really great at it. Miss Regina had a really gorgeous pinto mare that makes a pony-guy's heart go pitterpat when she prances and dances...so fine! When it's my turn, I'm a little more businesslike and like to put on some speed, toss in a few bucks, and be a manly-man. When the music has been on for a minute or so, I know that my part is comin' up.



So I move in closer to Mom, and at this show I started to circle up around her at a canter. I'm not Dancin' with the Stars material, but like to think I am the most *clever* pony at the show. So when I hear that music stop, I just turn-and-face, and walk right up to Mom and stuff my face in the halter without even being called. So, the catch part of this game happens in seconds and Mom gives me big hugs. We only get a few points for this fancy trick, but I love how Mom treats me like a hero, cuz she knows I taught my own self to do this! And just between you and me, I don't mind letting the beautiful pony-gal beat me in this class cuz she's some looker...and she did win! Who knows, she might be lookin' for a handsome and intelligent feller, maybe she and I could race off into the sunset sometime? Well, a guy can dream, can't he?

I will say that the pony folks looked like they were all pretty much having a nice time at this show and the weather was real nice and I loved seeing friends that I've missed for a while. The ponies all did a fine job of showin' off and gettin' noticed. All the helpers and Mr. Ken the announcer and Miss Nancy the steward and the judges were real hospitable and treated me real fine. My photo takin' pals, Mr. Mark and Miss Michele, were there too and they always do a fine job of makin' pictures of us ponies, all shined up and showin' off. I'll keep practicin' and maybe I can redo that "debut thing" over again next year if they will let me? See ya there?

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News from Jim Curry

This has been a very busy summer here. I took horses to show at the AMHR nationals as well as some to sell. I sold five there and two when I returned home. I also showed in the futurity classes as well as some open classes. My futurity entries placed well and I received a nice check. I drove in three classes and won a national championship and two reserve national championships. My weanling filly also won a national championship. A friend that had only been to AMHA shows went with me to help and enjoy the youth activities. I think we may have converted him so you may see Michael McKinnon showing in AMHR shows in the coming year.

I was only home a few days and had to leave to judge the AMHA World Show in Fort Worth. I leave again on October 14th to judge another show in Texas. With the drive at Neva Goodwin's and our meeting there and the Spooktacular in Roseville all this month, things have not slowed down to any extent. I only have one show to judge at Ranchotel in November so I should have more time to spend at home.

I am looking forward to a little down time and hope to see you all at our meeting on October 30th. —*Jim*

Rodabi-J Ranch News

Thor (18 mo. blanket appy colt) and Cabaret (8 mo. bay appy filly) are very happily living together now. They are both about the same size and I want them to have an extra nutritious diet, so it is working out quite well. I am hoping that Thor will be staying under 34" like his full sister, Velvet Frost (one of my little neighborhood girls asked if she could name him Thor and I said yes).

Now that every horse I own is either an appaloosa or a pinto, I can't say that I am looking forward to those long winter coats. We started winter weather a bit during "summer," but now that we are officially in the "fall," we seem to be having our summer heat! In any case, the winter coats are starting to grow, so nature's flip-flop didn't seem to fool them.

I see that the Secretary of Norcal MHC (Kristy Pruett) is going to be publishing a new full-color glossy magazine named "West Coast Miniatures," first issue to come out soon. It's way overdue for our little West Coast horses to have some decent exposure (compared to Texas and the East Coast) so I wish Kristy the best of luck!

The Valley Sierra Christmas Party is scheduled for Saturday, December 11th and all are welcome. Just give me a call for more info (at 530-622-1040) if you'd like to celebrate with us.

—*Barbara Naviaux*



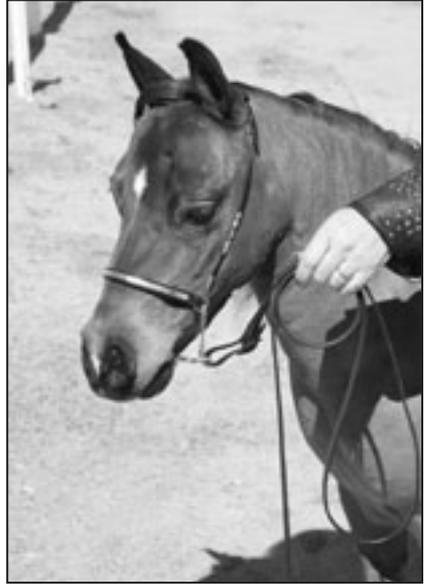
Green Acres Mini Ranch News

Well, this year is almost over and a new year is just around the corner. I didn't get to do much showing or even working with my Miniature Horses, since I had eye surgery in May and my doctor did not give me the OK to start working with my horses until the middle of July. Well, show season was almost over and my horses looked like little fat pasture puff. There is always next year.

On August 28 I drove to Orland to pick-up a new Aussie/Heeler puppy I bought on July 16. Her name is Lanie. She was born July 8 and is a blue Merle female. I didn't tell my husband that I bought a puppy. Fortunately, it just so happened that he was out of town deer hunting when I went to pick up the puppy. When he got home, as he drove up the driveway he saw a pink ball on the back lawn, and told his hunting partner that he bet that I got a puppy. Well, I am happy to report that Lanie is my husband's buddy now. He is glad I got her.

At the end of July I special-ordered a Titan16' Challenger stock trailer from The Trailer Specialist in Lockeford, CA. I needed a bigger trailer so my carts could be hauled inside the trailer, and I also needed a ramp for my Minis on it. The Trailer Specialist dealer and Titan Trailer MFG were the only ones that said that they could make me a stock trailer with the ramp, and they even did better with an aluminum ramp. I picked-up my new trailer on October 2, and it is great. I can't wait to take the minis horses for a ride.

Next year I would really like to show a lot more, but I don't really like going by myself out of town to some of the shows. If any one wants to partner up and go to



some AMHR and AMHA shows together, let me know.

Wishing everyone
Happy Holidays!—*Kathy Fransen*



News from Whisper Equestrian Center

Hurray! Melissa, RJ and Kiera are in their new house. I guess giving up part of the mare pasture was a good thing. One of Kiera's first words is "pony." She is definitely getting programmed for future lead line and Youth classes.

We have had a busy summer. We completed two weeks of pony camp. The kids and ponies were wonderful and most of the kids will be back in 2011.

Camp was followed by our first open driving clinic. Our one-day clinic was very successful and we followed that with a day of driving at Fort Ord. We plan on having more Fort Ord drives and clinics in the future. Come join us. We can drive for miles and the ponies love it.

We completed our points show season with the Santa Cruz county Fair pony show. Attendance was down but we all had a great time. Whisper's Patience won a Reserve Grand Champion Mare in Halter. What a great way to start her show career.

Whisper's Sundance Kid and Whisper's Putting on the Ritz traded Reserve Grands in Gelding Halter and then went on to Color halter and performance classes. Oneka's Shez'n American Dream and Fog Ranch's Wave Dancer did us proud with Mimi Woolem at the whip. Thank you Mimi and Pat for allowing us to train such talented ponies.

The weather was perfect and the ponies and minis were of a very high quality. We will finish this year's show season with the Metropolitan Horsemen's Association schooling show in Oakland. We want to get a jump on the 2011 show season.

We want to thank all of our clients for sending their animals for training. Although they don't all reach the show ring due to owner priorities, they are enjoyed and enjoy driving.

If you are interested in having a sound, enjoyable driving animal please consider our training barn. We do have a few openings at this time.

We have bred two mares to our stallion McCall's CB Jazzee Jet for 2011 and we hope to start his show career in 2011.

Well, we wish you all a wonderful fall and bright 2011.—*Julie Mabie*

Visit the Area VII web site at <http://www.areaviiclub.com/>

<ul style="list-style-type: none">HomeEventsOfficersTrainersBylawsHistoryYouthNewsletterHall of FameAll StarsFor SaleStation Directory	  <p>Area VII General Meeting October 30</p> <p>We will have a General Membership Meeting after the potluck and dine at Nova Gooden's on October 30th. This event is actually an activity for Valley Sierra but they have invited other clubs and</p> <p>Upcoming Events</p> <p>See the Events Page for more. October 23-24 6th Annual</p>
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More News from our Members

Larry Connolly

John was in meetings all day today, so I went to visit Raindrop. I decided to try and lunge her by myself. Uh oh. I can't believe it! It went FABU!!!

Even with the lunge line dropping around my ankles and the whip hitting my head and the line getting caught up in her hooves, she was perfect!

Will wonders never cease?—*LC*



Mark and Michele Nelson

We had quite a season and are more than ready for a little R&R. This horse show photography thing was easier before I went back to work full time! Our first show of the year was the Area VII Schooling Show at Ranchotel at the end of March. Mark was in the announcer's booth for the duration, so I got to shoot the whole show myself, which isn't too hard, except that I was recovering from a broken ankle and was more than a little lame. It worked out, though—I was able to get a few nice shots and had a lot of fun.

In May, I managed a schooling show for minis and ponies at Sequoia Arena in Oakland. This show was co-hosted by Area VII and Oakland's Metropolitan Horsemen's Association. Jim Curry was kind enough to serve as our judge. Since I was busy running the show, Mark ended up doing most of the photos, plus he was the course designer and did a great job of running the Hunter, Jumper, and Obstacle classes.

In June we went to the Valley Sierra MHC show in Plymouth. The turnout there was disappointing, but we had a good time anyway. Thanks to Julie Mabie, I entered the show ring as an exhibitor for the first time in...well...a long time. I handled Whisper's Putting on the Ritz in his halter classes, and he treated me very kindly and showed well. I have a couple of pretty ribbons hanging on the wall here in the office.

In July we went to the Whisper Equestrian Center Fun Extravaganza, and once again, Mark had to do all of the work, because I was the judge. I really enjoyed that experience and am looking forward to doing it again sometime.

In August we took a day off and attended a driving clinic at Whisper Equestrian Center. Julie was an excellent teacher, and we both learned a lot and had a great time. You know what? Driving is *fun*! Then in September things really got busy, and we had a show every weekend. Pat Michielssen sponsored us at the Santa Cruz County Fair on September 18, and then the next day we had the MHA Gold Cup Hunter/Jumper show in Oakland. Then on October 3, we had another schooling show for ponies and minis in Oakland, hosted by MHA. Kathy Fransen was very generous and gave us really great prizes for first place and high point. I was the manager so once again Mark had to do most of the work. Cindi Carlson was our judge and did a great job. It was a very good show and everyone had a great time. MHA is planning to do these shows again next year, one in the spring and one in the fall.

Next up is the Valley Sierra Halloween Drive & Potluck where, with any luck, you'll see both of us in a cart instead of behind a camera. Hope to see you there!—*Michele*



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PONIES FOR SALE



PT Everafter Rhapsody

ASPC 152843

Flaby's Mr. Chips x
Cherryll Frisco Golddust

"Reba" was bred by Cherry Hill Farm in Oregon. She is a Chestnut Tobiano Pinto, very pretty and Foundation Certified. She was foaled 4/23/2002.

Reba has not been shown, but she is definitely show quality. She is between 41" and 42" tall. Reba would make a great driving mare, family mare or 4H project. She trailers, clips, bathes and is very friendly.

Mr. Chip's Barbie Doll

ASPC 149289A

Flaby's Mr. Chips x
Cherry-Hill Frisco Skylark

"Barbie" is a silver dapple. Although she is a tobiano pinto, that is not indicated on her papers. Barbie was bred by Cherry Hill Farm in Oregon. Foaled 5/30/2000. Barbie was my daughter's youth pony until she went away to college. Barbie has been shown in halter, liberty, and costume. She is a very fun pony and very pretty. Barbie has produced one black-and-white pinto filly, Whisper's Satin Doll. Barbie would make a wonderful show, family or 4H pony. Barbie is not foundation certified but does qualify. She is 41-1/4" tall.



I am asking \$900 each or \$1,500 for both. Transportation and Driving training are available at additional cost. These mares are high quality and would not be for sale if we were going a different direction with our breeding program.