



AREA VII

Shetland Pony & Miniature Horse Association, Inc.

Fall 2011 • October, November, December



We had some fun in 2011!

Holiday Specials

from Nelson Photography

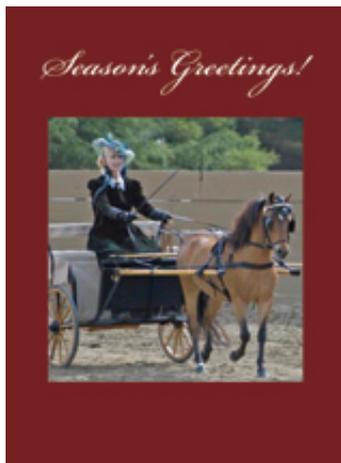
Calendar Print



8" x 10" Calendar print with photo of your choice on E-surface or Metallic w/lustre coating. Choice of black or tan background, horizontal or vertical format.

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Jim Curry (209) 369-5909 JCTrainingCtr@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Nancy Turner (707) 433-4346 tomamini@sonic.net

SECRETARY

Susan Browning-Wroe (916) 723-6932 wroemarvin@cs.com

TREASURER

Kathy Fransen (916) 987-5482 kathyfransen@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR 1

Joan Clements (831) 438-8616 JCPonyPaws@aol.com

DIRECTOR 2

Kathie Peterson (775) 246-5238 donka@gbis.com

DIRECTOR 3

Valleri Bell (530) 458-7973 valleri@bellsminiaturehorses.com

PAST PRESIDENT

Julie Mabie (831) 684-1555 WhisprPony@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP

Michele Nelson (510) 326-6487 michelenelson2@sbcglobal.net

YOUTH

Marcy Parsons (530) 933-1919 marcy_P@frontierret.net

HISTORIAN

Shirlee Busbee (707) 983-8482 step-n-stone@willitsonline.com

SHOW COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

Susan Browning-Wroe (916) 723-6932 wroemarvin@cs.com

Sharon Housley (707) 579-5067 fantasiaftc@pon.net

NEWSLETTER AND WEB SITE

Michele Nelson (510) 326-6487 michelenelson2@sbcglobal.net

ASPC AREA VII DIRECTORS

Jim Curry (209) 369-5909 JCTrainingCtr@aol.com

Julie Mabie (831) 684-1555 WhisprPony@aol.com

THE JOURNAL ASPC/AMHR CORRESPONDENT

Naomi Stacy (530) 921-8518 naomistacy@gmail.com



Area VII Shetland Pony & Miniature Horse Assoc., Inc.

23500 Dustin Road, Acampo, CA 95220

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

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

3-5 **2011 ASPC/AMHR/ASPR Convention**

Doubletree Hotel Portland
1000 NE Multnomah St., Portland, OR
For more information:
<http://www.shetlandminiature.com/>

13 **Area VII General Meeting**

Lunch and meeting, starts at 12 noon
Fresh Choice Restaurant, 5419 Sunrise Blvd., Citrus Heights
Susan Browning-Wroe or Robert Blackwell, (916) 723-6932



**Whisper Equestrian
Center**
American Shetland Ponies

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~American Shetlands~

Howard & Shirlee Busbee
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www.stepnstone.com

President's Report

President Jim Curry

I urge everyone to attend our next scheduled meeting on November 13th. We will have several important items to discuss and decisions to make.

We will receive a report on the results of our point show that was held in July. We did take a financial loss, but the hard work of our show committee resulted in an otherwise successful and fun event, and the only ASPC/AMHR show in Northern California this year.

We will also have reports on the National Shetland Congress and AMHR National Championships.

Our national directors, Julie Mabie and I, will be able to report on the ASPC/AMHR Convention that will be held in Portland November 1st through 6th.

Michele Nelson, our nominating chairperson, will present the committee's selection of nominees for the slate of officers to be elected for the coming year. If anyone would like to be considered for office, or would like to nominate someone, please contact Michele. Nominations will also be taken at the meeting.

I have been approached by a group from the Valley Sierra Miniature Horse Club about combining their club with ours. Most of the active members of their club are also members of the Area VII club, and many of the members of both clubs have held membership in both Valley Sierra and the Area VII club from the time each was formed. Both clubs have suffered declining membership in recent years and it is felt both clubs would benefit from this action. I have extended an invitation to the Valley Sierra members to attend our meeting and discuss this possibility.

We will also hear about the pleasure drives held at Neva Goodwin's and Julie Mabie's. It should be an enjoyable and informative meeting and I hope to see everyone there. —*Jim*.

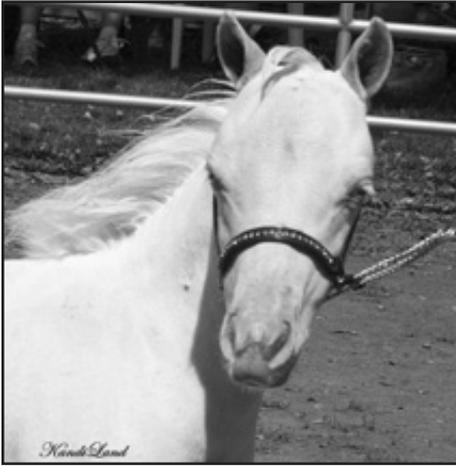


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Ravenstars Dreams of Fortune



ROSE PASS THE BUCK 500
X
RAVENSTARS ELEGANT DREAM DANCE
DOB: 5/14/2011

Incredible cremello colt! These pictures do not do him justice. You must see him to believe! Fortune is very refined, has two blue eyes, very correct conformation and wonderfully balanced. He has a beautiful head and neck, a great top line and he has incredible movement. He has a very loving disposition. His DAM went WORLD TOP four in the youth division in 2008. She is a Western Regional Amateur Champion Jr. Mare, Western Regional top 5 Open Mare 30" – 32" and Multiple Supreme Halter Horse. Dreamer is the daughter of Vermilyea's Alfalfa's Godiva, a WORLD RESERVE AMATEUR CHAMPION.

Fortune's SIRE is Mystic Rose Pass the Buck 500. He garnered the titles of Western Region Champion Solid Color Stallion/Gelding, Western Region Reserve Jr. Stallion and Supreme Halter Champion Stallion.

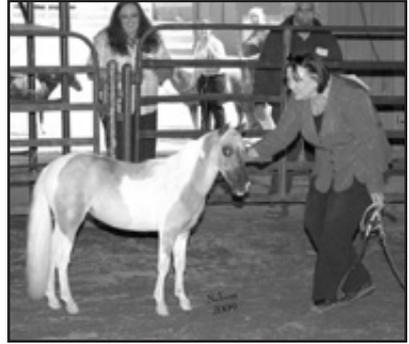
The blood lines are the best and include such names as Komoko's Little Kings Supreme, Little Kings Alfalfa's Please, Vermilyea's Alfalfa's Godiva, Sierra's Dances With Gold, Shadow Oaks Top Banana, Brewer's Dynamo Fortune 500, Bond Dynamo, & Rowdy's Baby.

This colt is destined for greatness and will take you to the top in the show ring and will make an incredible herd sire. \$4,000 but come and talk to us. Contact: Susan or Robert at (916) 723-6932.

Rodabi-J Velvet Frost is National Champion

Congratulations to long-time member Barbara Naviaux, whose mare, Rodabi-J Velvet Frost, won a National Championship the 2011 AMHR Nationals. Barbara must be especially proud since this lovely mare was bred by her.

Two very talented ladies, Lisa Schmidt and Sharon Housley, teamed up to create this champion. Along with her National Championship, Velvet was also Reserve Champion at the Oregon Horse Center Spring Fling, was second in AMHR Aged Mare and AMHR Multi-Color Mares at the Area VII National show last June, and was Reserve Champion and Reserve Grand Champion at our own California Classic in July. Well done!



July Schooling Show at Heather Farm

Editor's Note: We joined forces with the Equestrian Center of Walnut Creek to co-host a schooling show at the ECWC arena at Heather Farm Park in Walnut Creek on July 10. Both clubs were very happy with the event, and we are hoping to collaborate on more shows at Heather Farm next year.

We had many competitors who shared the 19 or 20 horses who came to compete. The day went very smoothly and we had perfect weather, 80 degrees and a nice breeze to keep us cool. Darlene Bingham was a wonderful judge and gave many great suggestions and a few extra practices to the new competitors. The Costume classes were awesome, and our youth 13-under division had 9 competitors in it! Those were some well thought-out costumes too!

I would like to send out very special thanks to Mark Nelson who was a spectacular announcer. I would like to especially recognize Larry Weaver for all his hard work decorating the arena and center ring in patriotic red, white, and blue. His decorations made everyone feel welcome and cheerful. Thank you Nancy Turner for taking a day to bring the tack trailer. It was a long drive and we appreciate you coming.

We owe heartfelt thanks to our friends in the Walnut Creek club. Mary Stewart organized this event on their end. She found some vendors, did all the signage and publicity that went out in Walnut Creek, and prepared the arena. Giselle Sorenson was a great help with registration, and President Jane Vanderwerf brought competitors and helped with the organization. We thank Jack Abrahms for letting us use the arena at no cost. I apologize that I do not know her name, but the lady who ran the snack shack prepared great food and provided great service, our thanks to her and her helpers.

Last but never least, I would like to thank my dear friends. Without their help, I could not have so much fun at these events. Robert Blackwell as ring steward, Lynn Blackwell at registration, Daniel Benner as the ribbon person, and my wonderful husband Marvin on the gate.

Most of all I would sincerely like to thank the Area VII Club members who brought their horses and ponies to enjoy a wonderful day and represent their club: Pat & Linda Anastasio, John Gasparini, Julie Mabie, and Larry Weaver. YOU ARE THE GREATEST!—*Susan Browning-Wroe*



News from our Area VII Roving Reporter

by Big Dasha Tabasca

Hello to all the Little Horse Buddies and my Human Friends!

Well, I've been out roving a bit and will just share a bit about my adventures. Mom and I had some fun at a Scurry event in the early part of the summer. We had one of those close-but-no-cigar-moments in the Optimum Time Class, when we finished 0.02 seconds under the optimum time for the course! Now, you tell me that isn't super close to perfect pony performance!! That is not even one pony step! Anyway, the bad news is, the rules say if you go under the OT, you are disqualified. Oops. One more step on one of the turns and I think we would have won! But it's okay, since we always have fun at these and I really love to cover some ground and let 'er rip! If you little horses get sick of trottin' around in sedate little circles in arenas, get your folks to take you to a scurry and get your boogie on!

Mom and I have made a lot of pony tracks around the driving track in our field this year. Don't think I'm not counting!! I happen to know that every two laps is a mile! These days, she likes to find someone to ride with her to add to my workout...call my lawyer! I think I have muscles on my muscles!

We planned to go to the Area VII California Classic Show in May, but then there was a big fuss about some serious germ-bug we little equines might catch, so that show was postponed at the very last moment. Mom had used up her vacation time while we got all ready and we had other plans for when she had more, so when they had the show in July, we stayed home and sipped cool drinks! We worked hard to be all spiffed up and ready to go, and so we were sorry to miss that one. I hope those of you that were there had a great time.

We spent many weeks preparing for the Pony Show at the Santa Cruz Fair in Watsonville, which is where I started my show career a few years back, so we always love to return. Some of you may have heard of that dirty four letter word—"D-I-E-T!!!" Ugh. Under duress, I was forced to do the pony version of "The Biggest Loser!" Call my lawyer! I was happy that Mom took off a few pounds too, that only seems fair, don't you think!!? We were quite the sight some nights after she got home from work. Mom couldn't even see my white stockings trotting around and



she would have a head lamp on to read her stupid timer, and I'm out there trotting my heart out before I even get my dinner? Is that any way to treat a pony?

However, all the work and primping and polish seemed to pay off when we showed up at Watsonville. We had fun and Mom was really happy with me. I showed off in Halter, in Liberty, and then in three



I was pretty awesome in the Obstacle Driving, if I do say so myself!

Country Pleasure classes, and that driving part was sort of a more successful “re-do of my debut” for those of you that remember that Debut story in this newsletter. I love doing Liberty in Watsonville because I always get a big snootful of ocean breezes and feel full of oats. Where we live, it's hot all summer, so I really feel like tearing up the arena a little to celebrate being cool, even though I think I'm always the Coolest of Ponies whether it's summer or winter!

Oh, and then, with just a week of practice, Mom gets this wild notion to give Obstacle Driving a try. I never know what she will come up with next! And talk about tricky work! I hope Mom will saw my cart shafts off shorter...those sharp turns are more steps than Dancing with the Stars!

I am proud cuz during the day, the judges said many wonderful things about me and Mom almost popped all of the buttons off her fancy frontier blouse, and we came home with lots of those bright colored ribbons. Personally, I'd rather they would have passed out cookies, but I still try really hard to do well, even for a bit of fancy ribbon! Mom fawns over me for weeks after I do well at a show, so I think I get my cookies one way or the other! <Wink!>

Now mom and I are getting ready for our first ever American Driving Society Pleasure Show. We are going to a clinic this weekend, just so Mom can practice (I'm ready!), and then on to where I will trot with the big guys. Well, I'll trot with every size, from little minis up to big ol' draft horses!! That's a lot of competition! But like trying the obstacle driving class, Mom and I just have to jump in and start somewhere and I like to be the Can-Do Pony! And, ha!, I'm so happy that the check reins are forbidden...who needs those silly things? So, I'll let you know about that new experience and most importantly, if Mom is happy enough with me when the show is over to keep the cookies coming?

Until next time, trot on everyone! —*Big Dash*

Editor's Note: Dash had a really spectacular day at the ADS Pleasure Driving Show at Clay Station on October 15. We went to press before we could get all of the details, so be sure to read Dash's report in the next newsletter.

Tomahawk

Buckeye WCF Classical Rocky Road



3 year old Classic Shetland Stallion
Multi Grand Champion & All Star Champion Colt
Sire: Graham's Little King Lee (HOF)
Dam: Wauk-A-Way Dinah Mite
(Multi GRCH/Ch of Ch)— see back cover for pictures
Price: \$1,500

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Ranch *Offers for Sale*

La Vista Allegro By MG



6 year old AMHR 35" Bay Gelding

Twice Reserve Halter Champion, broke to drive

Sire: La Vista Remarkable Mardi Gras (AMHA Nat. GRCH)

Dam: MV Amarice

Price: \$600

Other minis and Shetlands for sale.

For more information please contact:

Nancy Turner at (707) 433-4346 or tomamini@sonic.net

CALIFORNIA CLASSIC

JULY 30-31, 2011
WILTON, CA

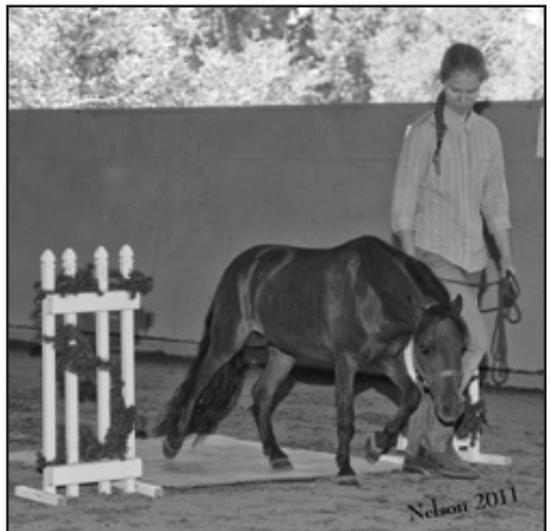
Our club hosted an ASPC/AMHR sanctioned show, the California Classic, at the Pacific Horse Center in Wilton the weekend of July 30–31. This show was originally scheduled to be held in May, but the EHV-1 outbreak forced us to postpone the event.

While we didn't get as many entries as we had hoped for, it was a good show and we got lots of positive feedback from our exhibitors. In an attempt to encourage participation, we offered ten non-rated classes, and those were very well received. As we had hoped, some of the people who showed in those classes enjoyed the experience and were enthusiastic about going to more shows in the future.

The Show Committee extends a heartfelt thanks and our deepest appreciation to those who provided the class sponsorships. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

We especially want to thank all of the Area VII Club members who came and supported the club by entering their horses, supporting their club and having some fun! To all our new friends who came from near and far to exhibit at this show...you helped make our event successful and we greatly enjoyed all of you!

Last but certainly not least, the Area VII Club thanks the Ravenstar Farms folks—Susan and Marvin Wroe, Robert and Lynn Blackwell, and Daniel Benner—for their long hours of work and amazing dedication to this event. Without each and every one of you, this event would never have happened.



Jim Curry's Ranch News

As usual, things have been hectic here. I took the tack trailer to our club show in Wilton in July, but only had it there for one day as the location was not convenient to help with the show and also be at the trailer. I did take Cover Girl to show on the second day, and was pleased when she won her class under both judges and was also name Grand Champion Mare under both. She was also named Supreme Halter Horse under judge Cindi Carlson.

I judged the Classic Division at the Shetland Congress in Des Moines, Iowa in July. This was one of the most successful Congress Shows held in recent years, and classes lasted until 4:30 in the morning on one occasion. I also judged an open show (full size horses) at Ranchotel, as well as miniature/shetland shows in Utah and Arkansas since the last newsletter. During this same time period I had the tack trailer at Reno (twice, different shows) and Red Bluff.

I did not take horses to the AMHR Nationals in Tulsa this year, but I did attend and exhibited several horses for others as well as filming a training DVD and working in the Ozark Mountain Tack booth. I won both halter and driving classes, and was especially happy to win a championship and a reserve championship with horses I drove.

An even bigger thrill was the win of a Splash son that was shown by his amateur owner and then his trainer to good wins, including National Champion Junior Stallion and Reserve National Grand Champion Stallion. I sold the mare in foal a couple of years ago and this two year old, RHA Splash of Curry, was the resulting foal. He is a full brother to Curry's Saturday Night Special that has won in both the miniature and shetland classes, including a championship at Congress. He is also a full brother to Curry's Man in Command, that was shown and won at the AMHR nationals as a foal.

I have been helping Lisa Caldwell, owner of Ozark Mountain Tack, with her colt Ozark Mountain Treasure Hunter, and was pleased when he was reserve champion behind the Splash colt in two classes. While Area VII was represented at Congress by only one exhibitor, Reining Spirit Ranch owned by Mike and Carol Want, the AMHR National Show had many exhibitors from Area VII, and those exhibitors did well including several national championships. Sharon Housley won several championships including one with a mare owned by Barbara Naviaux, both members of our club.

I still have several shows to judge this year, including the Arkansas State Fair, and will also be attending our ASPCA/AMHR National Convention in Portland in November. Convention is always an important event with many rule proposals and changes voted upon and decided by those attending. As your National Directors, both Julie Mabie and I welcome member comments, opinions and concerns about our National organization. Remember, we represent you, our members, and the decisions made will affect all of us, so please contact us with your input.

As I stated earlier, we do keep busy here. —*Jim*

News from Fog Ranch

On October 2nd I flew out to Vermont to visit with my good friends John, Larry and Fog Ranch's Pacific Raindrop.

It was a short trip, only four days, but we packed in a lot of fun. I drove "my" pony Raindrop! Was I excited! Since my mom and I bred and raised her, this was a BIG THING for me. Our gal drives splendid. John has done well with her training.



John is having her do small obstacles to keep her mind razor sharp. She is a dream to drive, very light. They do not use an overcheck, so it was a little strange for me at first, but I got accustomed to it. I can't say much how fun she was to drive!

I also met John and Larry's lovely pup, Zephyr, and their cat, Lana.

On Tuesday, I went to a place I shall call "Heaven On Earth," Shelburne Farms. It was built by Lila Vanderbilt-Webb and her husband Dr. William Seward. What a beautiful place! I felt at home. I was given the cook's tour by another fellow-driver, Jean Cross, who works at Shelbourne. There was a grand barn, a breeding barn, a carriage barn, and barn to show off the hackney cross horses Mr. Webb was hoping would be the next Morgan Horse. Unfortunately, the automobile caught on right then so the hackney cross never got off the ground. Oh yes, of course, the main house—it over looks Lake Champlain.

If any of you are ever in the Burlington, Vermont area, you MUST see Shelburne Farms!



Next, I visited the Morgan Horse Association, which is just the administration office. But they did have a great library of old Morgan Horse Journals and what Trophies on display! Wow!

Then John and I drove down to Weston, Vermont to see the original Vermont Country Store and had fun. We encountered a lot of Hurricane Irene damage along the way. It was so sad, seeing the damage. A lot of the farmland had to be overturned due to flooding.

I want to thank John for giving Raindrop the love and training she needs. It was strange at one point—I said, "Raindrop," in my usual voice and she turned and looked at me...She remembered.—*Mimi Woolem*

Vermont Update

I have the only driving pony at a dressage barn. While Pacific Raindrop is now used to the cart, it is amazing how disruptive it is for new horses to first encounter. Many have never seen a cart before, and even though they fearlessly go over jumps in cross country fields, many get completely discombobulated—rearing and balking with frenzied abandon.—
John Killacky



Photos by Jean Killacky



Tomahawk Ranch

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Step-N-Stone American Shetlands

It's been a quiet time here at Step-N-Stone over the summer...which isn't a bad thing :-). The ponies are now fat and furry, and because of the early rains, some are even muddy these days.

We sold a couple of ponies earlier in the year and have had some inquiries recently, but nothing to get excited about. For the third year in a row we didn't breed anyone. Best part of being a breeder is seeing those foals hit the ground in the spring and we really miss finally seeing those surprise packages.

Very happy with our two and three year old fillies. Step-N-Stone's Dreams of Glory is growing up to her name. She's a liver chestnut with a blaze and two high hind legs and we think beautiful. We're very proud of her and hope someday (ha!) to have her in the show ring. She's Step-N-Stone's Silver Feather's first (and to date) only foal and out of our beloved old Star.

Hope everyone is ready for winter and dreaming of next year.

All our best—*Howard and Shirlee Busbee*



Regina Nelson driving Step-N-Stone's Silver Feather at the 2010 Santa Cruz County Fair.

Tomahawk Ranch News

Well, summer is gone and fall is here. It is 87 degrees outside but we have been getting tons of firewood cut and split and stacking aged wood on the deck. I had a wonderful garden this year, mainly because we build a 8' fence to keep the deer out and an electric fence to keep the raccoons out. Late in the season, the coons were smart enough to find a way in but I am not smart enough to find out how they are doing it. I shot my first rattlesnake a couple of weeks ago. It was curled up by my garbage cans. One of my best fillies got killed by a snake last year so I didn't feel sorry for it.

I haven't been doing very many horsey events this year. Seems like I am still catching up on work that I was unable to do last year and too unsure of my physical limits to be training and working with the horses. I did go to my first Scurry at Sargents in September. It was the last one of the year so they had their year-end awards. I was very impressed with the facility, their hospitality, camping area, food and how well it was run. They even had a sand track around the area that was about ¼-mile long... I am always thinking of places for trotting races. There is over 200 acres that can be driven with hazards, a very large indoor arena, great trailer parking with water faucets and about eight big pipe corrals. I took Catchlight Shadow Dancer and she was the only VSE so she did well. Karen Burkland and her mother, Ester, came up from the LA area to see what I had in the line of young appy bred mares for sale. They also got to visit with Ester's sister in Hayward. I got Many Feathers from them about 25 years ago. I am looking forward to the Fort Ord drive on Oct. 22 and the Area VII meeting Nov. 13. See you there.—*Nancy Turner*

Bellota Miniature Horse Ranch

We are in the process of getting ready for winter with all our minis, making sure we have hay and places for all the minis to get out of the winter weather. Although we are anticipating another hard winter, (from the looks of our horses), we are going to practice obstacle and other events in our barn.

We had a really good time at the Santa Cruz County Fair this year, showing our shetland, “Ja-mee.” She did well, and best of all we got to meet lots of great people. We look forward to going there again next year. Fair food was delicious! Too bad it is so unhealthy.

We are looking forward to Brookside Oct. 15 in Elk Grove, and winding up the year at Auburn for a schooling show. That will probably be the last chance to compete until next year. We have had a good year. Pat has competed well with Pekabo at Reno and some other shows, and did well showing our Shetland for the first time.

Can't wait for next year, hoping no more virus scares, and the economy improves.

Have a good winter. —*Linda and Pat Anastasio*

Whisper Equestrian Center

Fall has finally arrived and with it the heat. Although the ponies are fuzzy, we are all enjoying the sun for a change. Fall is the best weather on the coast if you did not already know that.

We have had a wonderful 2011 show season. Mc Call's Jazzee Jet won Grand Champion Classic Halter Stallion in every show he entered this year. Three shows, five judges, and five Grands. Not bad for his first year.

We have sold several ponies and have several more available, and we hope to add to our pony friends and showing buddies in the future. Looking for a great pony? Come check us out.

ASPC/AMHR Convention is in Portland Oregon this year and we're looking forward to driving for a change. I hope some of our members can attend since it is on the west coast and we need your input. The Portland area is beautiful. If you want to see the rule change proposals that will be discussed, please go to the new ASPC/AMHR web site and check it out. For some reason the information is under Forms and then Convention. We have a little more work to do on the web site but it's going in the right direction for sure.

The Santa Cruz County Fair Pony show was a lot of fun. Entries were down but what fun we had and they have asked us back for next year. We can always use sponsorships, volunteers, entries and input. We are the only California Fair show for ponies and we want to keep it going. We have open classes for minis and hope to be able to get some point classes for that group in the future.

As you can see, we can't relax just yet, but we always find time to talk ponies and minis. Feel free to call or stop by any time.—*Ken and Julie Mabie*

Radulovich Farms Good News



Brit and Chickaboo at the California Classic.



Celebrating Summer...Katy and Chickaboo



This is 1 week old Tiger Lilly. She had a rough start, but now is doing great. Thanks Pam Brown and Dr.Nunes for your awesome efforts. I am not sure what color pinto she will when she grows up, but she will be a pretty girl.—Penny



The Area VII newsletter is distributed by mail to all members four times a year. Ranch and Member News is free for members. Please, no sales in Ranch/Member News.

2012 Newsletter Schedule

Winter: Materials due Friday, January 6. Mail by January 20.

Spring: Materials due Friday, April 6. Mail by April 20.

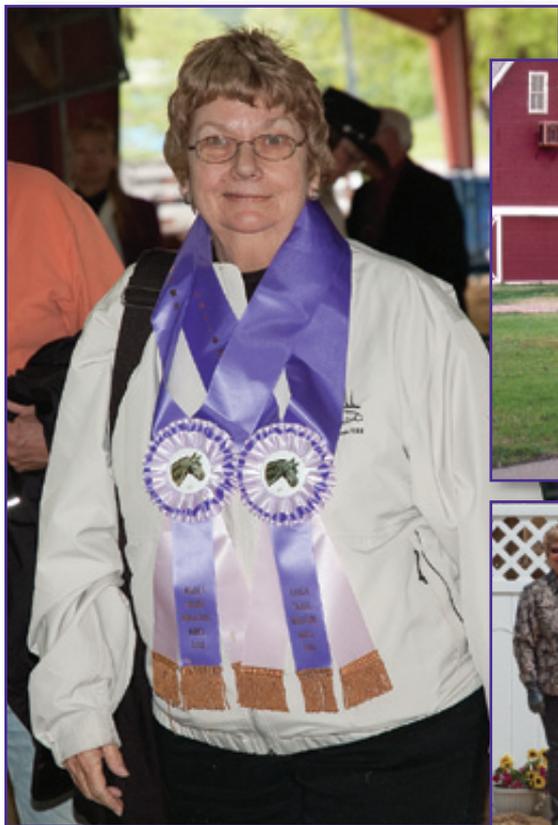
Summer: Materials due Friday, July 6. Mail by July 20.

Fall: Materials due Friday, October 12. Mail by October 26.

Michele Nelson, Editor • (510) 326-6487 • michelenelson2@sbcglobal.net

Carole Ann Ford

April 8, 1940 - August 31, 2011



"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing."

— II Timothy 4: 7-8

Donations in Carole Ann's memory may be made to ALS.net

Tomahawk Ranch Presents

Wauk-A-Way Dinah Mite



**Grand Champion Mare and Champion of Champions
2007 Area VII ASPC National Show**



**Grand Champion Classic Mare & Liberty winner
2010 Santa Cruz County Fair**

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