

FAREAVII

Shetland Pony & Miniature Horse Association, Inc.

Summer 2012 • July, August, September

Scout (Laurie James)

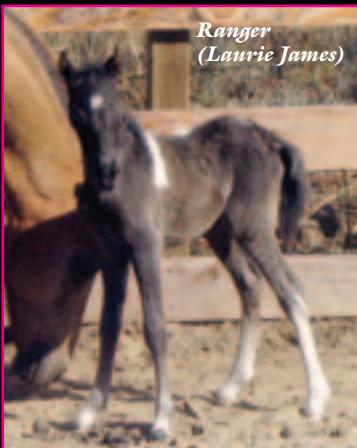


Rodabi-J Dixie Lee Sunshine (Barbara Naviaux)



PHOTO: LINDA TUCKER

*Ranger
(Laurie James)*



Lovlee Dragon (Penny Radulovich)



*DragonFly
(Penny Radulovich)*



*Foals of
2012*

Rodabi-J Ranch

We are so very proud of our little
31" Pintaloosa mare, Rodabi-J Velvet Frost.
Velvet is the *only* Miniature Horse in Northern California
to win a 2011 Halter HALL OF FAME!



Rodabi-J Ranch Miniatures
Barbara Naviaux • P.O. Box 144, Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 622-1040 • barb@naviaux.com

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

<http://www.areaviiclub.com/>

The Area VII Shetland Pony & Miniature Horse Association, Inc., was incorporated on June 14, 1998 by the Board of Directors: President Marjorie Vliet, Director Virginia Flint and Director Jim Curry. It is and has always been member supported and driven, with a dynamic group of people volunteering to run the club.

Area VII's membership is spread across California and Nevada at this time, with members of all ages, with varied backgrounds and interests. Area VII is primarily a club for those that enjoy their Shetlands and Miniatures, with a particular interest in showing.

"We are an informal group of people of all ages who gather together for the enjoyment of friendships made, and the promotion of our beautiful equine. As members of this organization, we help maintain the recognition that our fine Shetlands and Miniatures deserve at the ASPC/AMHR level."

Calendar of Events

AUGUST

7-11 ASPC Congress (Classic, Modern, ASPR)

Tulsa, OK

Contact: ASPC/AMHR/ASPR, (309) 263-4044

E-mail: showdepartment@shetlandminiature.com

Website: www.shetlandminiature.com

11 & 12 Clay Station HDT Series

Each day is an individual event. Ponies and minis welcome!

Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton CA

Contact: Stan & Debbi Packard: (916) 687-7948

E-mail: claystationhorsepark@frontiernet.net

Website: www.claystationhorsepark.com

12 California Scurry #4

Sargent Equestrian Center

15757 E. Sargent Road, Lodi, CA

Contact: Jeanne Williams, (650) 465-8528 cell, (209) 727-0200 office

E-mail: info@sargentequest.com

Website: www.sargentequest.com

17 NorCal Grand Finale (ASPC/AMHR)

Sonoma County Fairgrounds, Santa Rosa CA

Contact: Lisa Brostad, (541) 664-4644

Website: www.norcalminiatures.com

Class list and entry form are available at www.areaviiclub.com

SEPTEMBER

6-16 AMHR Nationals (AMHR)

Tulsa, OK

Contact: ASPC/AMHR/ASPR, (309) 263-4044

E-mail: showdepartment@shetlandminiature.com

Website: www.shetlandminiature.com



**Whisper Equestrian
Center**
American Shetland Ponies

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whisprpony@aol.com • www.whisperponies.com

9 California Scurry #5

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E-mail: info@sargentequest.com
Website: www.sargentequest.com

15 Pony Day at the Santa Cruz County Fair (ASPC/AMHR)

ASPC Classic and Foundation
New! Performance-only AMHR show!
Open classes for horses and ponies under 14 hands
Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds, Watsonville, CA
Contact: Julie Mabie, (831) 684-1555
Website: www.santacruzcountyfair.com
Class list and entry form are available at www.areaviiclub.com

OCTOBER

6 & 7 Fall Classic Pleasure Driving Show

ADS Approved
Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton CA
Contact: Stan & Debbi Packard: (916) 687-7948
E-mail: claystationhorsepark@frontiernet.net
Website: www.claystationhorsepark.com

20 Area VII/Whisper Equestrian Center Pleasure Drive at Fort Ord

We'll go driving at Fort Ord and then have a BBQ at Julie Mabie's.
Contact: Julie Mabie, (831) 684-1555

27 & 28 Clay Station HDT Series

Each day is an individual event. Ponies and minis welcome!
Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton CA
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President's Page

2012 President Larry Weaver

What a fun day we had at the Janet Read All-American Schooling Show. There were a total of 30 horses, plus two beautiful miniature Mediterranean spotted donkeys. It was great to see large youth classes. The costume class was excellent. A terrific half-time show was put on by Faith Taylor and her trick miniature horse and little dog. A patriotic salute was madeb y yours truly and Spirit, complete with fireworks and the American flag.

Our Judge Lisa Schmidt did an excellent job. She was very helpful and informative to the entrants. Her great personality made it a fun and productive day. We can not thank Kristy Pruitt enough for volunteering her time to being one of the best ring stewards we have had the good fortune to work with. Our announcer did a wonderful—job she was continually providing the audience with information about our club and the miniature horse and pony breeds. As always, Susan Browning-Wroe and her crew—Robert and Lynn Blackwell, Marvin Wroe, and Daniel Benner—did a great job getting us all registered and numbered and into the ring. Marvin worked tirelessly at the gate. Daniel presented trophies to all of the youth winners and did his usual excellent job making sure every one got the right ribbons. He was always right there to help wherever he could. Michele Nelson set up the courses and jumps in the hottest part of the day and walked the courses with the judge and exhibitors. Mary Stewart of ECWE had everything at the arena ready to go. She worked tirelessly to get the word out about the show in her area, which made for the excellent turnout. Thank you all!

Our goal is to make this an annual event. We would like to have the date firmed up by the end of this year, allowing us to be on track at the beginning of next year.

And...TA-DAH!! *We made money!*

My gratitude is extended to all who came to take part in the event and all the people who gave of their time and energy to make it a success.

I am working on some plans for a point show next year. I will email you the information as more of the plans are developed. I will send out a survey so that every member

has a chance to have input in this event.

I can't thank Michele enough for the fantastic job she does with our web site. She has made it the most informative and attractive in the state. Thanks Michele.

Susan has two more events in the planning stage. We will be scheduling a meeting in the future, time and date to be announced, and perhaps an end of the year event some members have asked for.

Hay, grain, pasture, and sunshine, Have a great summer. See you in Santa Cruz! Take care, be safe and happy. Don't hesitate to let me hear your thoughts.—*Larry*



Note from the Editor

Greetings Everyone,

I wanted to share with the you kind letter I received from Jane VanDerWerf, the President of the Equestrian Center of Walnut Creek. They are such a great group to work with, I hope we can keep this partnership going!—Michele

Dear Michele,

Thanks so much for providing this financial information from the Mini Show. Considering that entry fees were only \$4.95 per class or \$30 for the day—I am pleased to see a profit here! Low entry fees are so very helpful to exhibitors in tough economic times like these. I know too that low fees encourages folks to come out and try a show for the first time if they haven't ever taken their horses to one, and we love the opportunity to introduce the public, young and old alike, to inspire new interest in horses at ECWC. The mini horses are incredibly effective at doing that. I do hope we can help find a volunteer announcer next year to save some costs there.

I wish I could have attended the show but was on vacation that weekend. I understand you had a great turnout and everyone had a terrific time! Thanks so much to you and Area VII for all your hard work and efforts in working with Mary Stewart and ECWC to put on this show.

We look forward to next year!

Sincerely,

Jane VanderWerf, President
Equestrian Center of Walnut Creek



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Let 'Em Eat Cookies!

By Mark Nelson

So they gave me a pony for my birthday. I saw people feeding cookies to their ponies and horses and thought Spats might like cookies, too. I like to cook and hate to buy something I can make myself, but not having a clue how to make a cookie my pony would like, I went looking for recipes on the Internet. Like everything else on the Internet, the results were rather a mixed bag; some looked good, some looked bizarre, some we won't even mention. The most promising-looking recipe got me half-way through the mixing stage and stopped. Literally everything stopped. I had discovered the purest form of concrete. I could sell it for earthquake retrofit projects but I wouldn't feed it to a hippopotamus. Still, I felt the recipe was well-intentioned and sound at heart, so I experimented, adjusting quantities and adding and subtracting bits and pieces, and this is what I ended up with.

Two out of two taste-testers love these.

2 cups oats	2 tsp. sugar
2 cups flour	4 tsp. vegetable oil
2 cups shredded carrots	½ cup molasses
2 tsp. salt	½ cup water

Mix all the ingredients in a bowl, dry ingredients first, adding the oil, molasses, and water last.

If you're making these for ponies or minis you want to make them rather small (maybe a heaping teaspoonful per cookie), no larger than a ping-pong ball, slightly squashed, so these quantities should make about 36 cookies. If you're making them for a full-sized horse, then you want them like largish golf balls (a generous tablespoonful each), and you should get 20-24 out of this quantity of ingredients.

In any case, make your cookies and flatten them just a little as you place them on a couple of greased cookie sheets.

Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 15–20 minutes or until golden brown. If your cookies are on the large end, they'll take a little longer.

In my experience, horses don't really care much whether the cookie is on the crunchy side, or the chewy side, but I think they're done when the underside is turning dark brown but not yet black. The first time you overcook them you'll know exactly what I mean, but your horse or pony probably won't care, he/she will just make extra-crunchy sounds when chewing.





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My Change to Benevolent Leadership with Horses

By Sherry Ward

Have you ever had a boss, partner, project leader, or instructor that was aggressive, controlling, cruel, or domineering?

When I reflect upon how it feels working with this Show-'Em-Who's-Boss mentality, it doesn't feel very good. What I notice is that when humans are placed in a position of leadership, they assume that being the boss automatically means they are required to act "bossy." Maybe this is all they have seen from their own their bosses, so this is all they know as they take on their new responsibility? In my experience, most of us, including me, *brace against bossy people right away*. As a result, there tends to be brace on both sides, and then it deteriorates into "let the games begin!" Instead of offering strong leadership, which develops strong partners, many bosses end up alienated by their resentful followers! Another type of boss tries to be everyone's best friend and a pleaser. This approach usually fails to inspire a sense of competence and confidence.

So, it's interesting—if you watch how humans interact with horses and examine some of the old-time philosophy of horse handling, the Show-'Em-Who's-Boss (SEWB) method clearly appears in these relationships. Over time, I've begun to realize that when we get bossy with horses, or the opposite—wimpy—the horses often respond with "let the games begin!" Depending on the disposition of the horse, we can trigger fear, aggression, and resistance, and we don't foster anything approaching a great partnership.

One day at the barn where I used to board, I watched a horse who saw his owner coming pin his ears, go to the corner, put his rear-end to the gate, and stay that way until he was coaxed out with hay so that his owner could commence with her apparently boring (to her horse!) routine. The horse had this expression, "Oh, no! My human is here." When I go into the barn, I want my horses to think "My human is here! Pick me! Pick me!"

In the last decade, my teachers—my horses and my instructors representing Parelli Natural Horsemanship—have shown me that many of the traditional methods of showing a horse who's boss are a faulty approach, especially with a prey animal.

My new approach is to let go of the idea of trying to be "bossy" and change my objective to "Show 'Em Who is Leader!"

Horses are very different from dogs, and as a trainer of both, I have previously approached both with the same training methods. But horses, as a prey species, value safety, comfort and play (and when safe and comfortable, food). Dogs, as a predatory species, share our appreciation for rewards of praise, recognition, and material things. Perhaps like me, you wish your boss valued you as a good follower"with more praise, recognition, and material things. But I digress. ☺

A quote from wise natural horsemanship mentor suggests that "Horses are natural followers looking for natural leaders. But they're not looking for aggressive, cruel, or domineering leaders. They are looking for one that also considers them, and then they

will happily follow. *"Horses need to know they are safe with us, but they also need to know what their role is in this relationship. And even better, they can express their opinions, be heard, and know that their leader wants them to have fun, too."**

When you pause to think about the natural life of the horse, he exists in the hierarchy of the herd, and he defers to the leader of the herd. The horse's herd boss, or leader, is the individual that they rely upon for the decisions that provide safety and comfort, and in fact their very survival. If the horses have safety and comfort, they are then able to relax to forage and play. So it is in their relationship with their human partner.

It has been pointed out to me that horses check in about their station within the herd hierarchy literally every day. As soon as the horse is convinced that nothing has changed about his station, he freely moves on with the business of his routine for the day. We often enter the barn blissfully unaware that our leadership may be tested, even if we are aware that this natural check-in happens between horse and human, it can easily be mistaken by humans as a test of wills, even belligerence, or in the case of the wimpy human, dominance. Yet the horse is only doing what he would do within his herd, and he expresses no malice. Too often, we miss that our horse responds to his perception of us as leader, along with our fitness to be one worthy to follow!

As a follower, have you ever been willing to march behind someone into fire, and was this not the strong and benevolent leader type? Can you offer this to your horse? If you can, odds are good that he will follow with a high level of respect and willingness!

I am finding that the more I get the leadership I offer my equines just right—not too wimpy and not too autocratic—the more responsive my horses become, and our relationship continues to improve. This is about progress, not perfection, as I am still the student. I've come to think about the similarities between how I sometimes feel in the workplace and how my horses must feel when I don't make them feel safe and trusting, when I don't consider their opinions and feelings, and when I think only about me and my wishes, rather than "is it also good for them too?"

These days, when I'm interacting with my equine buddies, I am working on jettisoning a lot of the previously learned "we've always done it this way" techniques, and approaching my horses more benevolently with my focus being Show-'Em-Who's-Leader. I go to the barn and set a goal for each visit that when I leave, the horses think it was as good for them as it was for me. I'm pleased to report that the more I made this my priority, the more people have complimented the partnership I have with my equines, and the more delighted I find myself with the responses that the horses offer.

—*Benevolently yours, Sherry Ward*



Sherry and Pat Parelli, Master of Benevolent Equine Leadership, 2012 City of Industry Tour Stop



3 Days in June

Summer Festival CDE at Clay Station

By Michele Nelson

After 6-plus years of photographing horse shows, Mark and I were ready to try something new. Photographing little girls trotting slowly over poles has lost its appeal, and since we've had Spats we're more interested in driving than ever. So when Pat Scholderer contacted us about doing the photos for the Summer Festival Combined Driving Event at Clay Station, we were happy to accept the invitation. Three days of driving, and Deb Packard's awesome lunches. What could be better?

What is combined driving? I've heard it described as the driving equivalent of the ridden 3-day event, and I think that's a pretty fair description. The three phases of a CDE are Dressage, Cross-Country Marathon, and Obstacle Cone Driving.

The Clay Station CDE was an American Driving Society (ADS)-approved event. It drew 30 drivers at all levels of skill and experience. This event had three levels, Training, Preliminary, and Intermediate. The variety of horses and drivers was amazing. There were minis, small ponies, big ponies, "the 'smallest Clydesdale in the world'" (according to announcer Buck Scholderer), Morgans, Warmbloods...A few of the more memorable drivers for me were Drew Callahan, a trainer from Arizona who made it all look so easy; Diane Kastama, who didn't let a car accident that left her paralyzed from the waist down end her driving career, and has won medals in International competition;



Bonnie MacLeod and Hat Trick salute at the beginning of their Dressage test.

"The Rickey Nelson pair," a gorgeous pair of Chestnuts named Rickey and Nelson, driven by Jenny Haas of Wilton; and Bonnie MacLeod and her miniature gelding, Hat Trick. Bonnie was particularly friendly and helpful, answering my many questions with cheerful patience.

The first day, Friday, was the Dressage phase, which is judged on presentation and performance. I've heard some people say that watching ridden Dressage is like watching paint dry, and if you are one of those, I doubt you would find the driven version any more interesting. Even though I don't know much about Dressage—ridden or driven—I do enjoy watching it. I like the elegance and the fluid movement of the horses. It certainly makes pretty pictures!

Saturday was Marathon Day, which is all about speed and endurance. The horses negotiate a long-distance course



Jenni Haas and the "Rickey Nelson pair" in sync on the Cones Course.

that includes numbered gates and several “hazards” (obstacles). The horses are timed on different sections of the course, and there is a minimum and maximum time for each section. For the hazards, timing starts as the horse’s nose crosses the start line and ends when his nose crosses the finish line, frequently the same markers. The hazards are like puzzles, with a series of gates that must be negotiated quickly, and in order. On the Marathon course, all competitors except VSE are required to carry a navigator. There is a lot more to it than that, but right now, that’s all I know!

Photographing the Marathon course probably wasn’t as challenging as driving it, but it was the most difficult—and probably the most fun—event I’ve ever shot.

My time on the course varied from relaxed conversation with the hazard observers to controlled chaos, when all three hazards I was attempting to cover were in action. Mark was at the water hazard while I attempted to shoot the apple boxes, the railroad ties, and another hazard that I can’t recall the name of now. My best shots were taken at the apple boxes, and I think next time I might stick with that.

After the excitement of the Marathon on Saturday, I was afraid that Sunday, the Cones course, would be boring. It wasn’t. The cones course is a test of precision driving against the clock. Drivers navigate a course of numbered “gates.” Each gate is a set of two cones with a tennis ball balanced on top. Your mission as a driver, should you choose to accept it, is to go through all of the gates in the correct order within a certain time limit without knocking any balls down. Sound easy? Did I mention that the width of each gate is adjusted for each carriage, with a clearance of only ten inches? Each ball down adds five penalty points to the score, and there can be time penalties as well. Among other things, the cones course shows how well the horses have recovered from the physical and mental demands of the Marathon.

Combined Driving isn’t for everyone, but I encourage anyone who likes to drive, or is interested in learning, to take a look at this discipline. Besides this annual ADS-approve CDE, Clay Station also hosts single-day Horse Driving Trials several times a year. I strongly urge anyone who is interested to go watch one of these—or, even better, be a volunteer. My experience at Clay Station has been that people are very friendly and more than willing to answer questions and encourage newcomers to the sport. Oh, and volunteers get lunch!



Diane Kastama and Rupert at the water hazard.



Drew Callahan rounds a gate in the apple boxes hazard.

Whisper Equestrian Center

Summer has just begun and we are off and running. Summer means pony camp around here and we have two full camp sessions in July this year, preceding our Fun Extravaganza Play Day. We hope everyone will join us at the play day. We will have Hamburgers and hot dogs for sale as a fundraiser for our church and we hope to dazzle the spectators with our wonderful Shetlands and Minis. We hope everyone will enjoy trying some new things in the show ring and have a great time.



Summertime means Pony Camp at Whisper Equestrian Center

our breeding program due to the economy, the foals that Jet has produced have been outstanding, and we hope to bring them into the show ring shortly.

The Santa Cruz County Fair Pony Show is in the final planning stages, and we are adding a performance only section for AMHR Miniatures. We hope everyone will support the show. We also have Open classes for horses and ponies up to 14 hands, so even if your horse or pony isn't registered, come and join us at the Fair! We always have a lot of fun and the fair food is wonderful. Some of it is even healthy. :)

Last but not least, we are looking forward to the October Fort Ord Pleasure Drive. We hope everyone will join us. Our October weather is the best, and anyone wishing to dry camp at our ranch is more than welcome. We have a BBQ at the ranch after the drive, so if you can't come for the drive, come for the food.

I hope you are all having a great summer and are giving your small equines lots of hugs and treats.—*Julie Mabie*

American Shetland Pony Club American Miniature Horse Registry ASPC / AMHR / ASPR / NSPPR

Be sure to check the website for the latest news

- Super Gelding Sweepstakes • Registry Youth Program • Upcoming Events

View the latest edition of The Journal online

<http://www.shetlandminiature.com/>

News from Fog Ranch

It has been pretty quiet at Fog Ranch. No new foals, and our show schedule consists of the Santa Cruz County Fair. I hope to show our new filly, Fog Ranch's Zatara, out of Fog Ranch's Bay Watch Babe and by Double Stuf. I'm also planning to show her half sister, Fog Ranch's Puff n' Stuf, both in halter.

In April, we lost our nice sweet mare Cheg-Kim's Champagne Doll. She had been having troubles since November of 2011, and we had to make the difficult decision to put her down.

"Doll" did leave us with our stallion, Fog Ranch's Royal Coachman. He is a nice boy with the great temperament of his sire, Step-N-Stones Fancy Russett Roullette.

So the first part of May we put Coachman with Fog Ranch's Wave Dancer and hopefully we will have a foal in 2013.

Our good all-around pony Oneka's Shez N' American Dream (Candy) has been at the Wright Training Stables in San Juan Bautista. She is being "tuned up" so to speak. I have ridden her in the past, but now Dennis and I have two grandsons who want to ride the pony. So the Wright's are getting her used to little humans. I don't know who likes riding her more, me or the kids!—*Mimi*.



Who says grown-ups can't ride ponies? Mimi and Candy.

Radulovich Farms Good News...



My granddaughter Wendy Darling hugging our beagle Tinkerbell. I just love this picture!—*Penny*

2012 Member Roster

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