



AREA VII

Shetland Pony & Miniature Horse Association, Inc.

Winter 2013 • January, February, March



COMING EVENTS

Area VII Spring Clinics

March 17 and April 28
Russian River Riders
Hoof Beat Park,
Healdsburg

Annual Horse Faire

March 30
Heather Farm Park,
Walnut Creek

National Area VII Show

May 24-26
George Ingalls Equestrian
Event Center, Norco



DEER HAVEN RANCH

MARJORIE VLIET



Several top-quality young mature mares, \$500 to \$700. Two were winners in halter.

One middle-aged broodmare. She has produced winners in local shows and Top 10 winners in National shows in halter and driving. Due in April by Deer Haven Dazzler, National Grand Champion halter stallion. This pair usually produces dark bay or gray fillies.

Horse cart, restored antique, 1910 vintage Hooker & Sons, San Francisco. Single seat, stirrups, also have slat basket. New four-foot wheels. Wood. Large horse size. Also nice horse harness, brand-new bridle. \$700, complete.

Arabian size winter blankets and hoods, \$25 blanket and hood.

Mini, Shetland, and larger pony hoods, cheap.

Small, medium, and large mini slinky hoods, \$15 each.

New Shetland breeching, black leather, \$25.

Clipper blade sharpening bit, almost new. \$25.

Call Marjorie Vliet • (209) 293-7261
Deer Haven Ranch
4744 Independence Road • Mokelumne Hill, CA 95245

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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."

2013 Events

MARCH

- 17 **St. Patrick's Day Little Horse Clinic**
Hosted by Area VII
Russian River Riders Hoofbeat Park
300 Dry Creek Road, Healdsburg, CA
Contact: Nancy Turner, (707) 433-4346
Email: tomamini@sonic.net
Download the flyer and registration form at www.areaviiclub.com
Register by March 13 and save!
- 22 **Touch of Class Miniature Horse Show (AMHR)**
Sponsored by Small Equine Enthusiast of Arizona
Westworld, Scottsdale, AZ (Equidome)
Premium is available online now.
Entries must be postmarked on or before Friday, March 8.
Website: www.azhorseshows.net/show-info
- 30 **Annual Horse Faire**
Hosted by The Equestrian Center of Walnut Creek
Heather Farm Park, Walnut Creek, CA
Vendors and Breed Demonstrations needed!
Contact: Mary Stewart
Email: maryrobinada@aol.com
Website: www.ecwc.org

APRIL

- 20 & 21 **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
www.claystationhorsepark.com
- 28 **Area VII Schooling Show Clinic**
Russian River Riders Hoofbeat Park
300 Dry Creek Road, Healdsburg, CA
Contact: Nancy Turner, (707) 433-4346
Email: tomamini@sonic.net
Website: www.areaviiclub.com

MAY

- 3-5 **Oregon Horse Center's Spring Fling (AMHR, Classic, Modern, ASPR)**
Contact: Heather Engstrom (541) 689-9700
Email: info@oregonhorsecenter.com
- 4-5 **Parelli Horse & Soul Tour**
Murieta Equine Complex, 7200 Lone Pine Drive, Rancho Murieta, CA
Website: www.parellinaturallhorsetraining.com

24–26 Area VII National Show
AMHR, Classic, Modern, ASPR
Hosted by Pacific Coast Miniature Horse Club
George Ingalls Equestrian Event Center, Norco, CA
Contact: Earl O'Bannon: (951) 780-2308
www.pcmhclub.com

25 & 26 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
www.claystationhorsepark.com

JUNE

7–9 Western States Horse Expo
Cal Expo, Sacramento CA
www.horseexpo.com

14– 16 Clay Station Summer Festival CDE
ADS-Approved. Ponies and minis welcome!
Volunteers needed, no experience necessary.
Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton CA
Contact: Pat Scholderer, (925) 250-7676
www.claystationhorsepark.com

JULY

10–14 ASPC/ASPR Congress (ASPC, ASPR, NSPPR)
Des Moines, IA
Contact: Lenard Davenport, (417) 888-0686
Email: lendavenport@prodigy.net
www.shetlandminiature.com

AUGUST

24 & 25 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
www.claystationhorsepark.com

SEPTEMBER

5–15 AMHR National Show
Tulsa, OK
www.shetlandminiature.com

14 Santa Cruz County Fair
Classic, Foundation, AMHR Performance Only
Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds, Watsonville, CA
Contact: Julie Mabie, (831) 684-1555

Message from the President

Nancy Turner, 2013 President

I am sorry that our past President, Larry Weaver, had to step down and turn the reins over to me. With any luck, his health will improve quickly and he will be running for an office in the near future. I feel he has aimed the club in the right direction, and we should have an exciting new year ahead of us. With a limited budget, it will be hard to put on a point show this year. We hope to raise some money at upcoming clinics and schooling shows so we can afford to have official shows. A few trail drives with BBQs are also in the works and are waiting for better weather. If you have any ideas for what you would like to see our club do this year, please let me know.

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

Area VII to host two spring clinics in Healdsburg

Nancy Turner has been working hard to arrange for two clinics this spring, on March 17 and April 28, at the Russian River Riders Hoofbeat Park in Healdsburg.

The first clinic, on **Sunday, March 17**, will present a series of speakers on various topics of interest to anyone interested in horses, large or small. Here is the lineup at press time; a fifth speaker has not been confirmed yet.

Preventive Horse Care

Dr. Michele Beko, DVM

How to Safely Harness and Hitch Your Horse

Cris Anderson

Trimming and Hoof Care

Adam Dunaway

Nutrition

Tui Scheuring

In addition to the presentations by the speakers, we'll have a silent auction and a raffle, and lunch will be available for only \$5. Please bring your extra tack or show clothes for the silent auction. Donations for the raffle are also welcome.

Register by March 13: Adults \$15, youth 17 and under \$5, kids 5 and under free with a paying adult.

After March 13, the fees are \$20 for adults and \$7 for youth, kids 5 and under still free.

The registration form is available on our Web site at www.areaviiclub.com. For more information, call Nancy Turner, (707) 433-4346.

On **Sunday, April 28**, we'll have a "schooling show" clinic at Hoofbeat Park. Instead of ribbons, participants will receive constructive advice from an experienced judge. It will include halter classes, showmanship, in-hand hunter and jumper classes, in-hand obstacles, obstacle driving, pleasure driving, roadster driving, and liberty.

The plan is for the judge to teach participants what is required in each class. They will judge the class, then explain to each participant how their performance could be improved.

If you don't bring a miniature horse or small pony, there will be opportunity to audit for a minimal charge. Details will be provided soon at www.areaviiclub.com.

Collection

By Julie Mabie, Whisper Equestrian Center

Collect money. Collect your thoughts. Collect your horse or pony. Gather, bring together, compress. Collection is the difference between strolling down the country lane and strutting your stuff with control.

Visualize that your horse or pony has a spring between his nose and his tail. With collection, the spring is tightened and ready for action. Yes, some start out overwound through no fault of their driver.

The motion or energy in a horse or pony comes from the hind end through the spine to the front. If the spring is compressed with the head up, the middle of the spring bulges down and the energy is lost. If the head is too low, the spring bulges up and is ineffective. The collection needs to be just right. The neck is arched with the nose down and responsive and the hind end is engaged, pushing the body forward. All body parts are working as a team. It makes a pretty picture.

If you have a lazy animal, one that does not want to move forward—or move at all, for that matter, collection is very difficult if not impossible. An animal that wants to go and listens is a joy to collect. An energetic animal does not necessarily mean you have to use heavy contact. If you are listening to each other, it is a pleasure for both of you and you move forward as a unit, equine, driver, and cart.

How your equine uses his body varies between the gaits. At a walk, the spring is more relaxed, your animal is reaching forward more and may appear to be a little longer. At the trot the spring is tightened or condensed. The head is higher and the back comes up and the distance between your hands and his mouth shortens. Be ready for this transition or your reins will appear loose at the trot. If this happens you will also lose your soft contact with the bit.

The transitions or changes in gaits from walk to trot to extended trot and back down again can be critical, and the judges are looking at this. The transitions should be fluid, and this is achieved with combination of collection and contact.

Be ready for action. Drive with collection and you are ready for anything.



Tomahawk Ranch

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Nancy Turner
5250 Mill Creek Road
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Phone: (707) 433-4346
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www.sonic.net/~tomamini

Get Ready to Travel

by Ted Draper

Editor's Note: Reprinted from the Ted Draper Training Stables February Newsletter with his kind permission. Thanks, Ted!

Spring is just around the corner and we are all thinking about going to clinics, shows and lessons. The trailer has grass growing around the wheels and you want to pull it out and get it ready to go. Here are few suggestions. Check air pressure on all the tires and make sure the spare tire is inflated and in good shape. If any of the tires shows wear or the tread is very thin or there are cracks in the sidewalls, then its time to replace. If the tires look squashed or are low, check with an air pressure gauge and fill before a trip. Keep a tire gauge in your trailer's tool box. If a tire is losing air slowly, get it repaired. I believe everyone should have an air compressor in the barn or in the garage for tire emergencies.

Check for the desired air pressure on the side of the tire. An air compressor can do many jobs around the barn It can clean and dust and knock down cobwebs. There are other uses and I'm not going to elaborate.

Check clearance lights, brake lights, turn signs and brakes and make sure they work. Replace burned out light bulbs and if that doesn't work, then maybe the ground at the light fixture is bad. A bad ground at the hitch can cause the lights and the brakes not to work. To test the trailer brakes, hook up the truck and trailer, and on flat ground, let the truck move forward at an idle Apply just the hand brake to the trailer. It should stop the truck, if it doesn't, get them fixed.

Check the emergency break-away system. It is supposed to stop the trailer if the trailer breaks away from the truck. If you are stopped by the CHP, they will check the break-away system and if it does not work, you will get a fix it ticket.

Older trailers will have a small 12-volt battery that will last maybe a year and a half. The battery will be located in the tack compartment or under the tongue of the trailer. Replace and make sure the system works. How to test the unit: pull the pin, with the cable attached, out of the front of the control unit. The control unit will be either under the tongue of the trailer or on the side about two feet back from the hitch. Once you pull the pin it should activate the brakes. If nothing happens and the trailer still moves, then it would likely be a dead battery, but first, check connections and wires.

Newer trailers will have a car type 12-volt battery that is hooked up to the break-away system and is kept charged by a wire that is connected to the truck. Check the water level in the battery once or twice a year. Add distilled water if necessary.

When pulling the trailer, always keep one end of the cable attached to the truck. Better safe than sorry.



A few tips to keep your trailer ready to go:

1. Clean out your trailer, power-wash the sides and roof and under the wheel wells
2. Stop any leaks—roof leaks can rot the floor boards
3. Address rust: Take time to remove rust and repaint.
4. Coat the ball (trailer hitch) with grease; this makes for good electrical contact and reduces wear
5. Check and tighten lug nuts if loose. Keep the lug nut wrench in the trailer.
6. Keep a 'Trailer Aid' in your trailer. It is the quick and easy way to change a flat trailer tire. No jack is needed. Also keep road flares and/or Emergency Triangles in your truck.
7. Lubricate door hinges and latches with a spray lubricant' or WD40.
8. Pack (grease) the wheel bearings regularly.
9. You should have two chains from the trailer hooked with spring hooks onto the truck.
10. Keep a magnetic note pad attached to the inside of your trailer tack door and record the dates of maintenance and repairs.
11. If you have any questions, go to a trailer professional for advice or repair.
12. Change the oil and oil filter in your truck regularly.

Once your horse is loaded and you are ready to leave, make sure all doors are secure, the electrical cord is connected, and the hitch is locked down on the ball.

There is stress involved in getting to and from shows or lessons. Don't let the trailer add to the stress.

—*Ted Draper Training Stables*

www.teddrapertrainingstables.com



Connie's Itsy Bitsy Ranch
home of
Scott Creek Mystic Tempo
Registered AMHA/AMHR Miniature Horses

Ed and Connie Hawkins
209.536.1240
itsybitsyranch@mlode.com
21871 Sawmill Flat Rd. • Sonora, CA 95370

3-2-1 Contact

By Julie Mabie, Whisper Equestrian Center

Contact. We hear that word many times. Did you contact that friend? Contact paper. Are you riding or driving on contact? In all these instances they refer to a touch, a connection, a communication.

When riding, you have contact with your horse through your body, hands, and voice, but in driving you only have your hands and your voice.

Verbal commands require practice, and depending on the mood of your horse or pony, can be ignored.

Physical contact is a communication through the reins. A type of language, so to speak. When driving, your horse or pony wants direction. Where do you want him to go? How fast do you want to get there?

When a high level of communication is achieved the contact can be a whisper, but when beginning it may be a little louder so it can be heard and understood.

Contact is like holding hands. It can give you a sense of comfort, or it can be distressing...holding softly or in a bone-crunching grip.

Driving on contact is a dance, a comforting rhythm. Without contact your horse or pony can be insecure or unsure. You and your horse or pony are a team, a couple in the dance of driving.

Driving on contact has degrees of firmness. It can be as soft as closing your fingers, saying "let's go this way," or a strong hold that says "you better get over there. Now!"

Driving on strong contact is tiring for you and your equine, and I hope is not your everyday experience. The energy your equine displays affects how much contact is needed.

You want an enthusiastic driving animal that is under control. Control is communication. Talk to your horse or pony through the reins. Don't go silent by letting the reins go slack, creating a void.

As a driver, you have a responsibility to yourself, your animal, and those around you. Keep your hands quiet, soft and in contact.



American Shetland Pony Club American Miniature Horse Registry

ASPC / AMHR / ASPR / NSPPR

Be sure to check the Web site for the latest news

- Super Gelding Sweepstakes • AMHR Stallion Sweepstakes
- Registry Youth Program • Upcoming Events

Download the complete 2013 Rulebook
View the latest edition of *The Journal* online

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



Share Your Holidays

Here are some photos of an event we attended in December. Actually we have been doing this event with our Shetland Ponies for the last five years.

It is called "Share Your Holidays," and it is a televised fund-raising event for the Salvation Army. There are several donation sites, and people bring their donations to the sites or donate by phone. While that is going on, the various donation sites have interviews and entertainment. It goes on for hours and replaces the regular television programming. It reaches a lot of people.

The ponies are Sundance Cody's Mare-A-Gold (Palomino), and Wauk-A-Way Hurricane Holly (Bay pinto) The people are myself, Julie Mabie, my granddaughter Keira Whaley, and our fellow pony friend Mimi Woolem.

This has been a great way to introduce American Shetland ponies to our community and beyond. We also appear on the KSBW Channel 8 web site for this event.

It always puts me in the Holiday Spirit.—*Julie Mabie*



**Whisper Equestrian
Center**
American Shetland Ponies

Training • Lessons

Ken & Julie Mabie
P.O. Box 1445 • Aptos, CA 95003 • (831) 684-1555
whisperpony@aol.com • www.whisperponies.com

New Year Resolutions— Passenger or Pilot?

By Sherry Ward

The hobby of driving equines takes focus and definitely an attitude of *staying in the moment*. In a lapse of attention, one can get tossed off a riding horse and the animal can take off bucking with the saddle flapping; more often than not the outcome isn't too serious. When it comes to driving equines, losing attention can contribute to losing control which, more often than not, leads to a bad situation with the animal strapped into harness between the shafts of a vehicle.

Most of us like to think we ride or drive horses for relaxation. While we need to be relaxed and calm, we cannot afford to work with prey animals, be they 200 or 2,000 pounds, and risk letting our attention wander. Whips may zone out and become a passenger in the cart, but the very active business of driving a complex task like an obstacle course takes exceptional concentration. However, even going out for a pleasure drive is not a time to lose concentration and calm demeanor. Keeping the horse on task and staying alert to surroundings is our responsibility, to help our driving partner feel relaxed and safe.

It's widely thought that horses think in pictures and not in words, and each picture has emotional content. Whips can increase the chances of acceptable or exceptional performance in their equines by visualizing a very calm and focused horse doing exactly what the whip wants the horse to do. Regardless of the method, many of us believe that visualizing a poor performance can also be transmitted to the animal.

If the driver looks ahead down the road and sees an unusual mailbox or big trash can along the road and starts to think the horse will spook at said scary object, it's amazing how often the horse will pick up this emotional content and fulfill this exact negative thought. If the whip becomes more proactive and gets precise intention on exactly what they want, this gives the horse a stronger focus on his driver and things have a much great possibility of a good outcome. Much like offering the strong lead in a dance, the partner is more likely to follow. Horses have a strong sense of exactly the moment that the human's attention wanders. As a prey animal, this often makes equines feel isolated and uneasy. Keeping calm focus on the horse and the specific task desired offers a sense of strong leadership and safety, assuring the equine that the leader is watching out for his herd of two.

In front of a cart, wearing blinkers, the horse cannot see you. He has the lines and the whip, and your voice, to assure him that you are in communication as well as in the moment. It's important to keep the communication going with the horse via your hands and voice cues, so he knows what direction to take and how quickly to take it as you lead the Dance of Partnership. Certainly the horse needs to know his job, but it's important that you lead every step and offer continuous feedback as to how well your horse is following your intentions. Zoning into looking at the horse's ears or his round

little fanny can be pleasing to the driver, but it doesn't offer the animal strong intention. We need to lift our eyes and look in exactly the direction we wish to go, which will cause our body to follow with amazing proprioceptive changes that give effective cues to our driving animals. In addition, this focus will help the driver to offer less correction sooner, rather than needing to do more later! This can be helpful to keep misbehavior from escalating.

Many of us that are or have been riders have had days of being out on the trail and just being along for the ride while the horse goes on a loose rein and follows the trail. While there is no need to drive in a tense fashion in order to stay safe, sitting in a vehicle behind a prey animal requires a respect for the situation, as well as consistently thinking about what you want from your equine so you can help the horse stay focused.

An additional tip: Traveling in long straight lines builds impulsion. Small circles and figures help to build focus and calmness. Many nervous horses can be calmed with trotting figure eights and serpentines, especially during warm up. Big strong straight trots can actually bring up the adrenaline of many horses, but can also help wake up sluggish horses. Practicing at home can help you find the tasks that best focus your animal when challenging situations require it.

So, don't make a big deal of the scary mailboxes in your driving life; instead, think positive and offer strong leadership with your driving animals. Let's Drive Focused in 2013 and be safe with all of our driving excursions! Best wishes to all.

Whisper Equestrian Center News

Well, 2013 did not start out well personally and pony-wise. We lost our Hall of Fame Stallion, Master's Painted Kid Ryan, to colic. We tried desperately to save him, but it was not in the cards. We miss him terribly, but we do have a beautiful daughter that is a bright sunny spot in our hearts. Thank you to all those folks who wished us condolences. I know we were not alone this year in losses.

We are looking forward to the 2013 show season, and with any luck we will finish our other classic stallion, Mc Call's Jazze Jet's Hall of Fame in halter. We do plan to attend the Area VII National Show in Norco, and we encourage anyone else who would like to join us to come on down. We'll have a lot of fun, and the weather should be great. It will be old-home week for me. I was born in Corona, just across the freeway, and graduated from Cal Poly Pomona. I don't want to move back there, but a visit is great.

We are anticipating a few new ponies and minis in for driving training this year, and maybe a few tune-ups for past clients. Maybe I will even get a few of my own in harness. I miss that show ring driving.

We have a few ponies for sale and look forward to seeing a few we sold in 2012 back in the show ring with their new owners.

I think 2013 can only get better from here.—*Julie Mabie*

Radulovich Farms Good News

I would like to thank the miniature horse rescue group, Angels for Minis, and Pam Brown, for taking such good care of the little Appy mare I bought from the auction in Oregon. She came to me in good shape with a nice willing attitude. I call her Cookie because she is so sweet, just like a Christmas cookie with sprinkles. I am not sure if she is pregnant or not, but with spring on the way I am sure my stallion will let me know soon if she is not bred. Thanks again to ALL the wonderful people who helped bring this wonderful little mare to me.—Penny



All fuzzy and full of spunk!

NATIONAL AREA VII SHOW

May 24–26, 2013
George Ingalls
Equestrian Event
Center,
Norco, CA

CLASSIC SHETLAND • MODERN SHETLAND • AMERICAN SHOW PONY
AMERICAN MINIATURE HORSE “A” & “B” DIVISIONS



Judge: Jim Bruggink

Hosted by
Pacific Coast Miniature Horse Club

Contact: Earl O'Bannon: (951) 780-2308
www.pcmhclub.com



Rodabi-J News

Hi All!

A big “thank you” to all of our Area VII members for the very thoughtful get well card! After a few dismal weeks in the hospital, I’m home and getting better rapidly. I had to sell eight of my horses, however.

Here’s a photo of my little snowflake appaloosa stallion, Rodabi-J Ebony Thrills. He went to my long-time friends, Marjorie Vliet and Carolyn Carroll. The photo was taken by Bill Schmidt. Ebony is 13 years old this year, and is an ultra flashy and super sweet little guy!

I kept only two minis, both mares and both born here at my ranch. They are Rodabi-J Velvet Frost and Rodabi-J Aztec Allure; both are flashy silver dapple pintoos with very loving dispositions. If I can manage to fully recover, I may breed them both later on this year.

I hope we can have some meetings a little closer to me up here in Placerville.

*My best to all—Barb Naviaux (530) 622-1040
(I’ve had to disconnect my internet, so no more email.)*

Tomahawk Ranch News

I have had two colics since the last newsletter. I do try to manage my herd with annual dental work, worming at least 3 to 4 times a year, two meals a day with high quality alfalfa and oat hay, and annual vaccinations. I clean stalls, I exercise, groom, and trim feet. What am I doing wrong?

One friend blames it on the oak trees. Acorns and possibly oak leaves will make horses colic, but mine live in a forest of oak, bay, firs and redwoods, and I can't cut all the trees down. Besides, they would probably come down with sand colic! It cost me over \$600 for the last two colics. We will not go into the other colics, trips to UC Davis Vet School for colic surgery and sleepless nights.

I may have found the answer to my problem. It is called Equine Colic Relief. A doctor in Canada developed it in 1909, and Julie Edwards, who I believe lives in Texas, bought and manages this product. To buy it from her it cost \$50 or 11 horse-size doses for \$500. One horse-size dose will do two minis. It easy to use and works very quickly on simple impactions, sand colic, and mild spasmodic colics. I heard of this product from long-time mini friends who got it while back east and have treated three minis with colic so far with amazing results. I will have more info on this product at the March 17th and April 28th clinics. For those who can't wait, Julie's phone number is (903) 634-2072. But come to the clinics anyway and learn other things.—Nancy



Marti Gras Devine Design, one of the pregnant appy mares I got from Kentucky this summer.

Fog Ranch News

Not much going on at Fog Ranch. I am waiting to see if our only foal this year will arrive. I took Fog Ranch's Royal Coachman and put him in with Fog Ranch's Wavedancer on May 5th of 2012 on a lark and now we are waiting to see what or if any foal will arrive. Wavedancer is so fussy it is hard to tell if she is in foal. Other than that bit of news all is quiet.—Mimi

News From Deer Haven Ranch

I'm sorry we were not able to get animals to the point shows last year. I like to have several eligible for the Nationals and always have the young stock nominated for the futurities.

Many thanks to Pat and Linda Anastasio for recommending their farrier to me. I was having trouble getting one on a regular basis. He has been wonderful with the animals, taking time to get acquainted with each one and gain their trust. Even my baby filly was good for her first trim.

Carolyn and I have recently acquired Barbara Naviaux's stallion, Ebony, a black appaloosa and sire of mostly fillies. We also got four very nice little mares, but not Ebony's daughters. They all had fillies last year from him.

Three young mares are in foal again. Two of them are a matched pair of sorrel and white full sisters. They have huge eyes and very dished faces. The third mare is very fine, too, sorrel with flaxen mane and tail.

The fourth mare, Angel Ice, is silver dapple and white. She was shown to Champion when she was younger (she is 13 now). She is the dam of Barbara's champion little mare, Velvet Frost, who was National Champion Mare Under 34" at Tulsa last year.

Barbara has kept two of her horses, Velvet Frost and her older mare, Allure, who is the dam of our little matched pair of full sisters.

We're not sure what our plans are for the new animals, but thinking we may stand both Ebony and Dazzler to a few mares if anyone is interested in raising a fine foal.

Snakebites

Several of our club members have sadly lost animals the rattlesnake bites. I've had a little experience with them over the years—a total of five ponies and miniatures, two dogs and a goat. For years, I kept anti-venom kits in my refrigerators. Now they don't use the anti-venom for animals.

A few years ago, I had a tiny yearling filly follow the herd in from the back forty. Her eyes were swollen shut, but she could still breathe through her nose. The first thing I did was to give her three Benedryl capsules for the swelling, and was prepared to put tubes in her nose. I called a doctor friend who told me they had anti-venom at the hospital in Jackson, but when I called they wouldn't sell any to me. I was able to reach a veterinarian some distance from here. She said to get three different shots from a local vet. It was a Sunday, but I called a local vet and she went to her office and had what I needed. The Benedryl was taking the swelling down, and with the other shots, the filly recovered.

You can find information on the Internet about snake bites these days. Horses can't breathe through their mouths. If the throat swells shut, you can make an incision below the throat in the front of the neck through the skin in a vertical slit with a sharp

(continued on page 18)

News from Deer Haven Ranch

(continued from page 17)

knife, then a crossway cut between the rings of the windpipe so you can insert a tube for breathing.

A long time ago, I had a colt with strangles and my vet told me what to do in an emergency if he couldn't breathe.

I learned about the Benedryl for swelling some years back when Carolyn's Arabian gelding was stung or bitten by something. We never did know what it was—one evening when she went to feed, he was swelling in the throat and wheezing for air. His ears were already swollen shut. We were able to talk to a horse vet in the valley, and he said to give him eight Benedryl, and in about 20 minutes the swelling started to go down.

So I always keep a box of the capsules on hand. You open them and pour the powder into a cup, mix with molasses or honey and put it on their tongue with a spatula.

Skunked!

This recipe was given to me by a friend who said it works like a charm. She obtained it from a Fish & Game person. Forget the tomato juice—I never thought it was a very good remedy.

- ♦ 2 cups Hydrogen Peroxide
- ♦ ½ cup Baking Powder
- ♦ 1 teaspoon dish detergent

Put these contents in a jar or other open container. This can't be stored in a container with a lid. Sponge the mixture onto the animal.

May years ago, I dealt with a lot of skunks. I would catch the babies, take care of them, have them descented, and sell them, usually to pet stores. They were popular as house pets. Just like kittens!—*Marjorie Vliet*



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AREA VII

Shetland Pony & Miniature Horse Association, Inc.



Saint Patrick's Day Little Horse Clinic

Sunday, March 17
9:30 a.m.

Russian River Riders Hoofbeat Park
300 Dry Creek Road, Healdsburg, CA



Topics Include

- **Preventive Horse Care** *Dr. Michele Beko, DVM*
- **Trimming and Hoof Care** *Adam Dunaway*
- **How to Safely Harness and Hitch Your Horse** *Cris Anderson*
- **Nutrition** *Tui Scheuring*
- **And more!**

Download the registration form at www.areaviiclub.com

Raffle Prizes! ▪ Silent Auction

- Open to everyone interested in horses, big and small!
- **Register before March 13 and save!**
Only \$15 for adults and \$5 for youth 17 and under.
Kids 5 and under are free with a paying adult.
- After March 13, the fee is \$20 for adults and \$7 for youth 17 and under. Kids 5 and under are still free.
- Delicious homemade lunch available—only \$5!
- This clinic will take place rain or shine, so mark your calendar and register now!

For more information:

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