

The Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival Report.

By Pam Turner

The crisp January evening was warmed up a bit as hungry Festival-goers flocked to the kitchen at the Empty Saddle Club for a delicious dinner, cowboy-style. There were 4 different kinds of homemade chili pots ranging from mild to 'kinda spicy'. We had chefs Michelle Sanborn, Gil Houle and John Boyle standing at the ready to serve up heaping portions. Then there was the 'yellow gold', the pans of cornbread in assorted flavors Southern, Mexican and plain ol' cornbread that was just heavenly. This was created by the "Cornbread Queen", Charlene O'Neil. Ah, then the dessert...a mountain of lovely fresh baked "Bob's Big Boy style" brownies (nearly a hundred of them!) baked by Erin Bryan. She added in special ingredients of extra chocolate, chips and duck eggs. The ice cream added a nice garnish to the brownies.

After such a satisfying home-cooked meal everyone moseyed over to the Clubhouse to enjoy the show. **Patrick Bolen** played Dobros and flute beautifully while **Mary Heineman** did a great job on bass guitar as **Saddletramp** with **Ron Christopher** on guitar and vocals. **Wanda Smith** entertained all of us with her original poems and, of course, her standard "Peacocks and Ponyfeathers" that is always well received. **Bob Hotel** had everyone laughing with his rendition of "Take a Ride".

Paul Pitti and the New Westernaires with **Paul** on guitar and lead vocals, **Pam Pitti-Turner** on bass and vocals, **Randy Turner** on accordion, harmonica and juke harp and **Ron DePalma** playing mandolin, guitar and harmonizing with Paul and Pam had the audience tapping their toes and singing along to such tunes as *Red River Valley* and *Tumbling Tumbleweeds*. Paul, at 86 years young, is "the real thing" as one audience member put it. His parents met in 1913 as they performed in Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show and the family has been involved in Western movies, television, music and entertainment ever since.

Janis Lukstein, as always, came with fun props and had the audience making 'horse sounds' as she shared her poem about a pony

named Joey. **Kathy Stowe**, had us singing along with her in a parody about riding your horse to work to the tune of an old Everly Brothers song. **Dan Peddicord** returned to entertain us this year with a Garth Brooks tune, "*The Thunder Rolls*" and "*Wildfire*".

Now we got pretty excited about a new group who performed for us, **The Cross Town Cowboys**. **Buffalo Bryan** on stand-up bass, **Robby** playing guitar and **Dusty** on guitar, mandolin and vocals had us all enjoying classic cowboy songs as they sung such tunes as "Ragtime Cowboy Joe", Cigarettes and Whiskey and Wild Wild Women. Dusty showed off some pretty amazing yodeling in true cowboy style. **Charlene O'Neil** shared some beautiful poetry. There was one in particular, about some Connemara's she knew and how they were now running free in heaven that was quite touching.

Then, "the last act of the night", **The California Cowboys** took the stage. **Craig Ruppert**, **Mel Harker** and **Steve Deming** were as entertaining as ever. As usual, Steve's poetry reflected his cowboy heart and well, the musicianship was excellent. We didn't let them get off the stage without singing the memorable and hilarious, "*Yuppies in the Sky*". All in all it was another great time of entertainment, food, fun, and fellowship. We are looking forward to next January 15, 2011 when we can come back and do it all again. Our thanks go to the Empty Saddle Club members for their hospitality in providing their beautiful clubhouse and kitchen for this yearly Cowboy Event.

FROM THE EDITOR...

Well, I am happily reminiscing about all the fun we had at this year's Cowboy, Poetry and Music Festival. Randy and I got there early to set up the backdrop and sound system, while our friend Mike arranged the chairs. It is a labor of love for my family and we are so happy to be able to play a part in bringing this to all of you each year.

So, now it's back to the reality of rain, mud, sloppy trails and horses that need a good turnout before riding.

Oh well, daylight savings time is coming in March, the rains will stop, the trails will eventually dry out and our horses will calm down as we get to ride them more. We are so blessed to live in Southern California with our mild winters. Shoveling snow to get to the barn would not be my favorite thing to do.

Happy Trails!

Pam Turner



What's Happening!

February 4-7- Equine Affaire at the Fairplex in Pomona.

Feb 4-7: Cowboy Boot Camp Scavenger Hunt at the Equine Affaire. To enter contact www.cowboybootcamp.net or call 310-8729421

February 18: General Meeting at ESC 7pm. Hardy and Jutte Zanke share their horseback adventure in Mongolia

New Members:

Nadine Jett; Melanie Maclean; Moses Awad; Jenny Corona; Amelie Vergnolle; Chloe Malia Kerly; Jennifer Benedict; Stefanie Haggerton; Lynne Liebelt; Andrea Macho; Ruth Berman; Haannah Chiet

Thank you Trail Donors!

Nadine Jett; Jenny Corona; Jennifer Benedict; Andrea Macho

Want to be in the paper?

Is the Dispatch looking a little light in terms of articles? Do you want to have more pages of interesting info about our equestrian life on the Peninsula? Well, we would love to hear from you, our members, trainers, farriers and vets. Any equestrian-related local news, stories from the barn, poems, etc. are welcomed. If you would like to submit something please email it to pvdismatchmailbox@yahoo.com.

Hardy and Jutte Zantke Bio

Submitted by Hardy Zanke

Hardy Zantke learned to drive horses as a youngster with draft-teams at his grandfather's drayage company in East Germany. He later had a formal riding education in the West German army. After immigrating to the U.S. with his wife Jutta and settling in Torrance, CA they became one of the top competitors in Combined Driving in the USA in the 80's and 90's with their pairs of 17 hand bay Holsteiner geldings. They competed regularly throughout the entire U.S. and Canada and were first alternate of the U.S. team at the 1993 World Pair Driving Championship. They brought up two pairs from importing them as three year olds to being longlisted with the USET. They also competed with a four-in-hand and reached the USET List of Developing Drivers with the team. They retired from active competition in the fall of 2005.

Hardy is a retired transportation executive. He is a licensed FEI International Driving Judge as well as FEI Para Equestrian Driving International Judge and actively judges here and abroad. He is a Director of the American Driving Society (ADS) and serves on various committees of USEF and ADS. He has served as Chef d'Equipe since 1996 for thirteen U.S. Teams which brought home five medals. Hardy writes for various driving magazines and his articles are published in Australia, Germany, Italy, Canada and the USA. He received the ADS Presidents Award for his contributions to driving

Jutta and Hardy have organized the California Classic Carriage Driving Event here on the hill (Ernie Howlett Park and the landfill plus surrounding trails) for 11 years, every year from 1990 to 2000. The event served as a fundraiser for Ride to Fly, the riding program for disabled children here on the hill.



PVPHA's Horse Trainer Spotlight

CARLOS SANTOS:

I was born in Portugal, right in the middle of Lusitano country. I started riding when I was 12 and never left the sport.

The next five years were spent in the riding academy of Mestre Antonio Vassalo, in Santarem. Vassalo himself was one of the regular riders for Coudelaria Nacional, which is the same as the National Stud. I showed several Lusitanos in the very well known places of Golega and Santarem.

At the end of this period I also started riding with the man that marked my Equitation, Dr. Jose Manuel D'andrade. He was a person of enormous sensibility and knowledge. His horses are still very well known all over the world. I found that Lusitanos, as a breed, are not easily trained in the beginning, but then, they will give their life for their rider. This is the reason why they are so good in the bullfight. His horses are spread all over Europe mostly and are one of the most sought after bloodlines. We also did several National Endurance Championships, the longest one being between Badajoz and Lisbon.

In 1984 Dr. Baron Bodo von Bruemmer hired me as main trainer for his farm. With this association, I was able to ride some of the best Arabian bloodlines in the world. We showed extensively throughout Europe and got a second place with the horse Atlas (El Shaklan) in Jerez de la Frontera.



In 1990, I came to the United States with the dream of being a jockey. I raced at all of the major tracks in the country, Santa Anita, Hollywood Park, Gulfstream, Hialeah, Belmont,

Aqueduct, etc. I became the leading apprentice for two years in a row at Longacres Park.

Now, I am based in Palos Verdes, where I have begun riding Dressage again. I have shown successfully in the Southern California circuit, and got DASC 2007 horse of the year for First Level and Reserve Champion for the breed. This was all possible, thanks to owners like Tom and Lori Clark, and their very talented mare Rosie.

I am always trying to maintain the highest level of professionalism by working very closely with Carole Hoffman and Louise Koch.

Right now, I'm training a pair of young horses and working with Rosie to show Fourth Level and Prix S George.

All inquiries are welcome.
310.293.6157 cell
c.santos1@live.com



Rhymes from the Range...

The Last Mayor's Ride- by Pam Turner

Each year the horse-folk saddle up for the annual Mayor's ride in the Spring
Dressed in their cowboy best, or not they gather at the local ring
Now the horse I usually ride was already taken by a cowboy pal
So that left just one little paint pony waiting in his corral

Now that little horse called Magic had quite a reputation for getting into trouble
So his name was changed to Lycan, it meant werewolf, and soon his fame would double
I knew he had a talent for flipping over backwards if he didn't want to go
So, I put a tie-down on him and snugged it tight just so

His saddle was a different style not quite the type I would enjoy
But my favorite saddle's girth was just too big for this little boy
I asked his former owner if he'd been round a carriage or a big ride
Manny shrugged his shoulders and well, I thought I'd still give it a try

When we arrived at the ring there were all these horses waitin'
Most were calm and patient, but my little guy started hoppin' in anticipation
I shoulda left right then and there but I decided to stay as I thought it would be fun
But here came the carriage down the trail and the chain reaction had begun

A few horses looked like they'd seen a ghost when it arrived
Others lined up behind it ready to start this annual ride
The bucking and snorting finally stopped as they all prepared to go
The little guy I was on was just warming up for a show

Most of the riders followed along and were soon out of sight
A couple stayed with me as Lycan began to put up a fight
A girl in shorts was on the horse ahead and when he turned toward us in fear
That was all that paint needed and he tried to rear

My tie down held firm and I thought that I would win
That is until the little dude decided that he would spin
Now I had leaned forward to help stop the rearing and was not ready for the jerk
That eventually sent me flying off his back and down into the dirt

I hung onto his reins with a tight fisted grip so he wouldn't get away
He danced up and down near my body that was lying in disarray
I got up, looked him in the eye and said a couple of things
That's when I saw the TV crew, their camera had taped my "fling"

At this point, I realized that the damage was done
And I could only salvage my pride if I got back on
My saddle pals held their breath as I put my foot in the stirrup, yes I was alive!
Under my breath I told that horse to hold still if he wanted to survive

Well, I got back to the barn with no further major beefs
And as I put him in the corral I sighed long in relief
I had no desire to ever ride again this little whirling flame
For today the magic Lycan had lived up to his name

Attention: Cowboy/Cowgirl Poets please send me your poems and I will publish them in the Dispatch!
Ed.



Equestrians on the Peninsula

From the early days there have been horses and riders enjoying the trails on our beautiful Peninsula. I recently found some old pictures online that captured some of our equestrian history and would like to share them. PVPHA is dedicated to preserving and protecting our equestrian lifestyle and trails so that future generations can look back at our pictures.

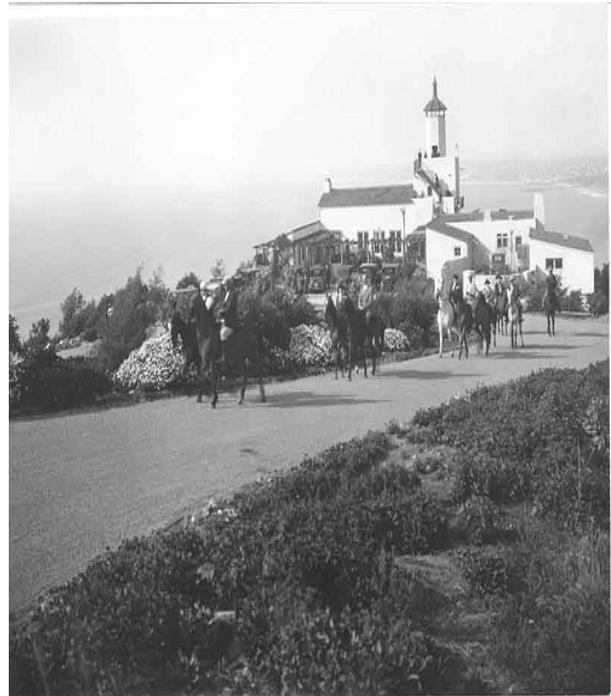
Ed.



Horseback riding on the beach in the Malaga Cove area, (LA Public LibraryPhoto)



Entrance to Palos Verdes from Redondo Beach 1925
(Picture Courtesy of Palos Verdes Peninsula Library District)



La Venta Inn 1924, Palos Verdes Bulletin, Pierpont and Walter S. Davis, Architects (Picture Courtesy of Palos Verdes Peninsula Library District)



Horseback Riding on RAT ("Right After Torrance") beach below Malaga Cove looking towards the site of the future Swim and Beach Club
(Picture Courtesy of Palos Verdes Peninsula Library District)

EQUINE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Earthquakes continue to be a fact of life! Even though the fire season may be over, don't get complacent!! We felt it necessary to review what should be in your own Equine Disaster Emergency Plan. The following serves to summarize what steps you may have already implemented, and include some tips that you may have not.

Always evacuate early. If Evacuation Warnings have been issued, evacuate immediately. Do not wait for an Evacuation Order. If impossible to evacuate your horses, prepare them to be Sheltered In Place well in advance. To download an excellent handbook with detailed information, go to www.etinational.com/, click on the "Docs & Forms" link, then click on the question, "What Do I Do With My Horse in a Fire, Flood and/or Earthquake?"

1. Plan NOW for emergency sheltering for your horses.
2. Become involved with (or start) your own neighborhood network. Neighbors can work together to help horse owners on their street who do not have a horse trailer.
3. Make a list of emergency contacts. Include local emergency response, sheltering site, veterinary number, family contact information and keep copies in your car or trailer and home.
4. Take photographs with written description of each horse. Put a copy at home and in your emergency kit.
5. Have a leather halter and cotton rope readily available for each horse. Mark halters with contact information, using duct tape.
6. Microchip your horses.
7. Always have a 3 day supply of feed and water available (per horse).
8. Teach your horses how to trailer.
9. Keep trucks and trailers well maintained and ready to move.
10. Make a Disaster Preparedness Kit. Store non perishable supplies in a portable container such as a clean trash can, bucket or canvas duffle bag.

- Cotton leads, leather halters, shanks
- 3 day supply of feed/water/meds
- Buckets for feed/water
- Emergency contact list/ID Photos
- Portable radio with extra batteries
- Cell phone with charger
- Flashlights
- First Aid Kit
- Leg wraps
- Blanket or sheet
- Hoof pick
- Tarps
- Shovel
- Sharp knife
- Wire cutters
- Water hose
- Duct tape

Don't forget that the most elaborately prepared plans are great, but if you aren't home to implement them, your animals will be the ones to suffer. Inform your neighbors of your plans. Help each other and hopefully, we will never have to use them!

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How Not To Crupper Train Your Mule

By Vic Otten
Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.

This is the second part of my mule training series regarding what not to do with your mule. In the October 2009 edition of *Mules and More*, I wrote about a harrowing experience where I expected my mule to stand by when a herd of steers ran toward him. If you caught that article, you know my mule took off running with me on his back.

Fortunately for me, this next training lesson gone wrong involves my good friend Latha.

It was Sunday, Nov. 15, 2009, and I was getting ready to go for a ride with my friends Dale and Latha. It was a beautiful sunny day in southern California. We originally were planning a long ride to a place called Peacock Flats. In retrospect, it was a good thing that we did not go this route. There are some really steep sections as you wind your way down to the Pacific Ocean. Had we gone that route, there surely would have been a major wreck.

Instead of going to Peacock Flats, we decided to ride to Ernie Howlett Park. This is a park that is owned by the City of Rolling Hills Estates and has several riding arenas, tennis courts, a baseball diamond, and a batting cage. It is an easy ride that is mostly flat.

Latha was riding a new mule that he named Bon Bon, a super-fancy gaited molly that is sorrel with four white socks. Bon Bon is barely four years old, and the gal that Latha got her from had not ridden her in over a year. If you do the math, Bon Bon could not have had much training as she would have been just over two years old when she came to California. What little training that Bon Bon had did not include use of a crupper. As we live in an area with lots of steep trails, a crupper or brichen is a must.

As we were tacking up, Latha proudly said to me, "Bon Bon let me put the

crupper on her. I will keep it loose for this ride."

Now, I have never had to train a mule to use a crupper, but I thought it might be a good idea to try it out in the round pen first. That way you could see how she reacted to having a leather band under her tail. The round pen is a controlled environment. As Latha has owned mules for a long time and, in fact, was the person that got me into mules, I figured he knew what was best. I chose to keep my mouth shut.

It took us about 45 minutes to get to Ernie Howlett Park. Latha was feeling pretty darn good as we made our way to the park. Bon Bon appeared happy with her ears flopping back and forth, and Latha had received several unsolicited compliments from people on the trail about what a nice-looking mule Bon Bon is.

We arrived at Ernie Howlett Park around 11 a.m. We dismounted, headed for the restroom, and got some bottled water. A woman who works at the stable there gave the mules some watermelon and carrots. We hung out for a short time and decided to head out.

Just before we mounted up for the ride home, Latha tightened up the crupper a couple of notches on Bon Bon. This was part of Latha's training strategy, to adjust the crupper incrementally.

We all got on our mounts and headed for the trail head that is on the opposite end of the parking lot. A gentle breeze blew off Latha's hat, and Bon Bon tucked her hind end under her and took off like a jackrabbit. She went tearing across the parking lot and headed for the baseball diamond. As the baseball field is fenced, I feared that Bon Bon would dart to the right and take Latha in-between the fence and the bleachers (a potentially very dangerous situation). Still, Dale and I were not overly concerned until Bon Bon started bucking. "Wow! Look at her go," exclaimed Dale. "I did not know Latha could ride so well." Latha rode out the buck and brought Bon Bon to a halt at the fence line. When he dismounted, Bon Bon had her tail down in between her legs — it was clear that she was bothered by the crupper. "That crupper must have really goosed her," Latha stated.

Latha explained to us that when the one-arm emergency stop failed, his strategy was to force Bon Bon to run to the fence because she would have nowhere to go. This seemed to work.

Latha took the crupper off Bon Bon, and we rode back to the Empty Saddle Club without incident.





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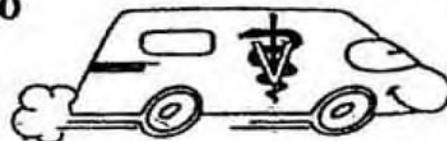


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