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Verdes  
Peninsula  
Horsemens  
Association

# ·D·I·S·P·A·T·C·H·

Volume XXIV, Issue 8

August 2010

**AUGUST 19 ~ 6:30 AT THE EMPTY SADDLE CLUB**

## **YOUTH ON PARADE!!!!**

Join us to celebrate our young riders' achievements who will be performing for you at our next PVPHA Meeting. We will have an array of events including: Junior Drill Teamers, Dressage Exhibitions, Pony Club Exhibition, and IEL Performers both Western and English. I promised several of our young riders root beer floats at the meeting . . . so I am keeping my promise! Please be prompt so that we have light and time for all the participants, trainers, etc..

*Charlene O'Neil  
VP Education*



## **ALLERGIES**

**PRESENTED BY DR. LARRY KELLY**

By Erin Ryan 7/15/2010

Does your horse suffer from any of these symptoms?

- ◆ Hives
- ◆ Chronic cough
- ◆ Respiratory difficulties
- ◆ Nasal discharge
- ◆ White spots on hair coat
- ◆ Fatigue
- ◆ Irritable/nervous
- ◆ Mood swings
- ◆ Behavior changes

Allergies are notorious for showing themselves in any number of different ways. An allergy is a condition in which the body reacts adversely to a certain substance. The reaction might appear locally in the skin or can involve other body systems. An allergy is defined as a hypersensitivity reaction to a particular allergen; symptoms can vary greatly in intensity. Any substance can cause an allergy. Medline quotes "an allergy is caused by an oversensitive immune system which leads to a misdirected immune response."

Type of locations for allergies:

- Topical (skin)
- Ingestion (eating)
- Inhalation (breathing)
- Systemic (organisms)

When considering the immune system and allergies, keep in mind these items:

- 1) any substance can cause an allergy;
- 2) The immune system can become oversensitive or display hyper-sensitivity reactions, causing a misdirected reaction.

Take the tetanus vaccination for example. A tetanus antigen is given to the horse. The immune system produces antibodies against the antigen (vaccine). You could expect three responses to the vaccine:

1) a poor response to the vaccine, 2) a normal

response, or 3) the immune system will over react. A poor immune response will cause the vaccinated horse to be susceptible to the tetanus bacteria introduced by the antibodies. The normal immune will help the horse protect itself against the tetanus bacteria. Or an allergic reaction can occur when the immune system over reacts to the tetanus vaccine. With this scenario the response could be a breaking out with bumps, crinkling of skin or blood vessel leakage of serum. On the extreme side, the horse could have a violent reaction to the antigen due to a prior contact to the same antigen. This is called anaphylaxis. Other examples could include penicillin ingestion, bee stings, or sudden death syndrome.

Horses do get enteric (bowel) allergies due to diet allergens. How can you tell? Loose stools! The bowel produces large volumes of gas (flatus), loose stool and/or diarrhea. This can manifest allergies in other organs or systems. If that is the case, your horse may not be getting the proper calories inside.

What about a horse that seems to cough a lot? This response may be due to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease where the breathing muscles constrict, so it is hard for your horse to get the air out of his lungs. To get air out the horse starts coughing. This is an allergic reaction to something.

One such case study involved an expensive show horse who always seemed to be getting sick from one thing or another. Over the course of several years, many trips to the clinic, a multitude of calls to more than one vet and a lot of spent money, the cause of these attacks remained elusive. Their barn had more drugs than most vet trucks. While Dr. Kelly was on call the young daughter mentioned that whenever the horse ate the berries growing at the end of the corral, he went crackers. This was an observation of an eight year old. That turned out to be the problem; the horse was getting sick from the berries. Once the berries were removed, the horse did not have further attacks!

I personally know of someone who has a mare that

*Cont'd to page 3*

*Cont'd from page 2*

got hives during a certain time of the year. Her corral was getting some work done to it, and she was placed in a different area. The hives seemed to go away. Once she was put back into her stall, the hives came back. As it turned out, the owner started watching that horse, discovering she was prying of the bark and eating it. The tree was an avocado tree. Evidently the bark just did not set right with her digestive system.

The bottom line is that any substance can make the horse's immune system become sensitive, and then cause an allergic reaction. The owner needs to become his own private investigator and try to determine what may be causing the allergic reaction in their horse. Most important piece of the puzzle is that you are the only one who can observe your horse on a regular basis.

Thank-you Dr. Larry Kelly for sharing this information on allergies!

moved away from us and was quickly hidden by the vegetation. We could see the distinctive small ears and hump of the grizzly. Since it was about the size of the black bear, it was probably a juvenile, maybe 2 or 3 years old.

Since I am still working hard to catch up with my work, this will be mostly a photo report, all taken from the back of a mule, except the deer in camp. Next time I will share with you planning, complications and options of such a trip.

Have gaited mule, will travel....



Granite Falls, quite a sight, those things you think are bushes are trees.

One of two moose that walked across the trail. We stayed there about 10 minutes taking photos. We saw a calf and mom during another ride.



Here I am with Turpin Meadow and Tetons in background. Our camp was in Turpin Meadows.

Two moose, young bulls, that walked across the trail. We just stopped and took photos. One is the same as above photo.



Our daily visitor in camp. Don't know how close we could have gotten. Did not try.

## WYOMING TRIP *by Heidi Furer*

Dale asked me to write something about our trip to Wyoming. We left June 23, and returned July 18. Over 3 and a half weeks of unbelievable riding and relaxing, happily living in a 24 foot motor home. We camped and rode south of, in, and north east of Jackson, but south and east of Yellowstone. You could easily spend a whole summer riding in this area.

We saw many deer, one even visited one of our camps regularly, at least 4 moose, which allowed us to just observe them without running off, and a grizzly bear. We have seen many deer, elk, black bear and some moose while riding before, but never a grizzly. We have seen their tracks, scat, and could tell by the fetid order that they had just crossed our path. Dolly, my mule, calmly brought my attention to it. (After the fact, it was hard to believe she "calmly brought it to my attention".) It was lying down against a log, somewhat camouflaged. It slowly got up and

*Wyoming Trip Cont'd to Page 4*



Granite Falls, notice the trees for a comparison of the size of the falls.

Two Ocean Lake, with Tetons in background.



Gros Ventre area with meadows and Tetons in background.

### WHAT'S HAPPENING!

- Aug. 29 -
- Sept. 26 ..... ETI Corral 8 shows at Ernie Howlett Park
- Aug. 19 ..... PVPHA General membership meeting at Empty Saddle Club (see front cover)
- Sept. 16 ..... PVPHA Ice cream social Empty Saddle Club
- Sept. 18 ..... PVPHA Poker Ride
- Sept. 18 ..... RHE City Celebration

### DISPATCH EDITOR

Pam Turner has resigned as the DISPATCH editor. Pam stepped up and volunteered to be the editor several years ago when Jan Sawyer decided she could no longer do the job because of health problems. Pam has done a great job editing the DISPATCH. She continued to improve the quality of the DISPATCH including taking it from a paste up document for the printer to an electronic file. Pam has been caring for her father who had hip surgery and this required her to move to Culver City to live with him. She does not have internet service there. The PVPHA board would like to thank Pam for the outstanding job that she has done with the DISPATCH. We hope that you will join us in wishing Pam the best and wish her father well.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

With Pam resigning as the DISPATCH editor, we find ourselves in need of an editor. Anyone who is interested in this position, please contact Dale Allen (310-325-4903 or email at daleallen39@cox.net).

### ELECTION NOTICE

The results of the annual election for a two year term is as follows:

- President ..... Dale Allen
- Vice President of  
Fiscal Affairs ..... Vic Otten
- Vice president of  
Membership ..... Gil Houle
- Corresponding Sec. .... Mark Jacobowitz

## **PVPHA'S HORSE TRAINER SPOTLIGHT BETTE BURKE**

Bette Burke has a love affair with horses that began when she was 8 years old and her family acquired two family friendly geldings. Thus began her lifelong pursuit of bringing people and horses together. With a degree in Recreation Administration and a graduate of Pacific Horse Center, she was introduced to the Palos Verdes Peninsula horse scene around 1982.

With the help of a few wonderful lesson horses, Bette has helped hundreds of girls and boys, moms and dads and even a few grandparents experience horses. Bette believes that each person can enjoy horses at their own comfort level. Some wish to learn enough to enjoy horses on their next holiday while others wish to train or compete with their own horse. Students of Bette's compete successfully in local dressage shows, combined training events, ETI hunter/jumper shows and IEL High School competitions.

In 1984, the original Horse Day Camp was started by Bette in the Dapplegray area. It is the longest running local horse day camp and is so successful that it has become the basis for which all the other Peninsula horse camps are designed. Burke Horse & Hound Horse Day Camps are extremely popular and book up well in advance. Some campers come back year after year and love the fact that each camper receives a private mini lesson with Bette every day!

Bette and her husband Fintan have taken several groups of riders to enjoy the amazing horses in Ireland (Fintan's homeland). Galloping on the beach, jumping cross country at Castle Leslie and cheering the competitors at the Royal Dublin Horse show are just a few of the pleasures enjoyed by all.

Bette's three children, Brendan(18), Conor(17), and Clare(15), are also part of the Burke Horse & Hound crew. Starting off as students, then competitors, they soon began to work in the business as camp counselors and pony party helpers.

In the past, Bette has served on the ETI board, been the Chairman of the DLPOA Gymkhana and organized annual horse shows and recitals for all her students. She maintains her CHA certification and attends clinics by George Morris and others to stay current. She continues to host "Holiday Hollering on and off Horseback" at Christmas time for one and all. Her latest endeavor is her Enchanted Pony Parties. "It's a whole new way to bring horses into people's lives. Watching a child's eyes light up when they sit on a pony for the first time is a joyful experience."

Being a riding instructor and teaching youngsters and the young at heart to enjoy the wonder of horses has been a dream come true for Bette. She invites you to check out her Facebook @ Burke Horse and Hound and hopes to see you around the barn!

*Bette Burke  
Burke Horse & Hound  
(310) 534-9330*



Bette & Fintan



2005 Moorpark Event

## Junior Equestrian Corner

### A Girl's Dream Come True

by Amanda Schweitzer



When I was little, I was deathly afraid of horses. Whenever they got too close, I would run away, screaming in terror, and I would hide behind my parents'

legs. My sister, on the other hand, was a true horse lover. She always wanted to go on the pony rides, and we all thought that she was going to be our family's equestrian. But one day, I surprised everyone. I realized that horses were gentle giants, and never looked back.

I started taking western lessons when I was 9 years old. I had just begun to canter when I decided I wanted to switch to English. I wanted to jump and be on my new school's equestrian team! Sadly, I didn't have much time to be involved with horses and didn't ride at all for much of 5th and all of 6th grade. I knew that I really wanted to ride again, and convinced my parents to send me to a horseback riding camp last summer. I cantered my first day at camp, and only one week later, I jumped my first jump! I was so proud of myself. I begged my mom to find me a barn, and one week after I got home from camp, I had my first lesson at Palos Verdes Stables. I started riding two times a week on a small light bay pony named Bubbles. I was hooked. It wasn't long before I started to ride three times a week, and progressed even more.

When I had been riding for about 3 months, my trainer wanted to see me ride Gunnison, a beautiful Chestnut pinto pony with one white sock. I was so excited when I helped tack up Gunny and mounted. That emotion was soon gone, though. The whole lesson Gunnison kept trying to sneak out of the arena and he wouldn't stop pulling on me, so I rested on his neck. I didn't even get to canter. I felt like I had failed, even though my trainer told me I had done well and tried to explain to me that there was a difference between "real" ponies like Gunny and her well-trained lesson horses. I couldn't hear any of it. I couldn't wait to leave the barn and get away from Gunny. I cried the whole way home, and I never wanted to ride Gunnison again.

For the next few months I rode only lesson horses, and was content. I leased a responsible dark bay named Rocky. A month or so later, Rocky went lame and was out for a few weeks, so I went back to riding Bubbles. One day I arrived for my lesson, and asked if I should get Bubbles tacked up. My trainer replied that I should get Gunnison instead, as I would be riding Gunny that day. Oh, no. I could only think about the last time I rode him and I was scared. I started to brush him, fed him a carrot, and then quickly finished tacking him up. I hopped on, and when we started to canter, it was pure love at second sight. I loved him, now!

Two months later, I am proud to say that Gunnison is my pony, and I love him more than anything. For two months, my mom and dad plotted with my awesome trainers to give me this amazing birthday present. When they surprised me, I was so happy and excited, I was literally speechless. The best part (other than him!!) was the giant bow that they put on Gunny, even though he tried to eat it!

I would love to thank everyone at Palos Verdes Stables, especially the amazing trainers, Tracy, Alden, and Erin for everything they have taught me about riding and horsemanship. All the special people and horses that call this barn home have helped me to become the rider I am today, and with their support I know that I can reach even greater heights!

P.S. Amanda and Gunnison went to the ETI show on July 11th, which was the same week she received him as her birthday present. She and Gunny competed in the Cross Rail division, and earned the blue for Equitation on the flat. Overall (with 3 others) they placed 6th in Crossrails. Congratulations!



### COMEDY AND MAGIC CLUB TICKETS

We are selling tickets for the Comedy and Magic Club for \$12 each or two for \$20. All proceeds will go to the RHE Pepper Tree Fund and the PVPHA. You may get tickets at the RHE City Hall or any PVPHA Board Member.

# *Rolling Hills Estates 53rd Annual City Celebration*

*When: September 18, 2010*

*Where: Empty Saddle Club*

*Events and Demonstrations for the whole family*

*PVPHA Poker Ride*

*Gymkhana Events*

*Horse Demonstrations*

*Kids Games and Races*

*Hot Dogs and Hamburgers*

*Dinner*

*and*

*Much More*

*Mark Your Calendar*

## HORSE FUNNIES ...

Photo by Ruth Sobeck, DVM



"Do Not Disturb ...  
Escape Artist at Work"

Submitted by Ruth Sobeck, DVM;  
photo by Karol Tremain



Swimming Lessons Paid Off. . . .  
Look, No Hands!!!"

Photo by Ruth Sobeck, DVM



"Blowing Bubbles. . . Syd's  
First Swimming Lesson!"

## ATTENTION PVPHA POKER RIDE



The annual PVPHA will be held on Sept. 18, 2010 in conjunction with the RHE City Celebration (See Flyer). Price is \$10 per hand. Many, many prizes so don't miss out. The Poker Ride will start at the General Store at 8am and the ride will end at the Empty Saddle Club. You can start the ride any time between 8am and 10am. Hands must be turned in at the PVPHA booth at the Empty Saddle Club by 11am.

## Brumby Horse Seminar

By: Brian Hampson, PhD

Australian Brumby Research Unit/School of Veterinary Science/University of Queensland  
Sponsored by: Pacific Hoof Care Practitioners

The Australian Brumby Research Unit was established to investigate, from 2008 to 2012, the feral horse and apply this research to improve the foot health of the domestic horse.  
<http://www.wildhorsesresearch.com/>

### Seminar Content Includes:

- Overview of wild horses worldwide / background on brumbies in Australia
- Domestic and wild horse movement through GPS studies
- Brumby nutrition in wilderness environments
- The wild horse foot
- What it all means for equine husbandry and foot care

Saturday, August 14, 2010 - (9:00am-5:00pm)

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Contact: Jennifer Reinke, 310-713-0296, [jjreinke@hotmail.com](mailto:jjreinke@hotmail.com)

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**DEADLINE for receipt of Ads is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.**

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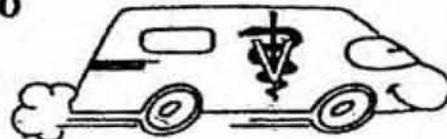


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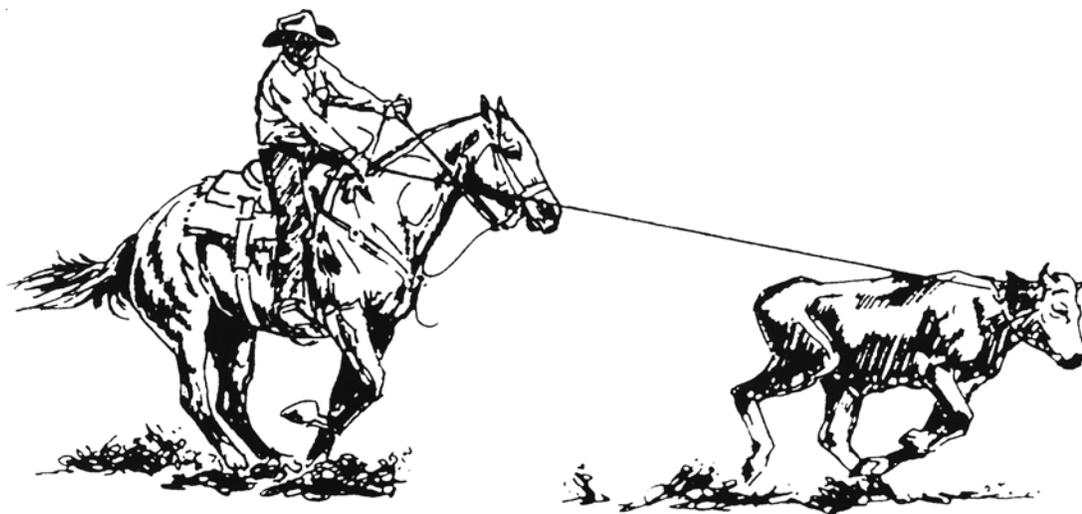


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