



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**PVPHA Monthly Meeting**  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH, 7 PM  
EMPTY SADDLE CLUB

**Equestrian Committee Meeting**  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 7 – 9 PM  
PENINSULA CENTER

*Events listed here are not necessarily sponsored or endorsed by the PVPHA. To add an event, please email: [pvpha.dispatch@gmail.com](mailto:pvpha.dispatch@gmail.com)*



*Bill Lockwood with horse Doc. Photo provided by Jan Spak*

## PVPHA February Meeting: Types of Hay

By Jan Spak

Have you ever wondered if you're feeding your horse "good" hay, or even the right kind of hay? If so, you will not want to miss our next PVPHA meeting. Many of you followed Bill and Jackie Lockwood from Lomita Feed as they worked through the health issues of their beloved horse 'Doc'. As a result of that experience, Bill did extensive research into various types of hay and what to look for and what to avoid when selecting your hay. We're fortunate to have him as our guest speaker to share some of the insight and expertise gained from his research!

As an added bonus, the PVPHA board has voted to raffle off free gift certificates to Lomita Feed for three lucky attendees! So mark your calendars for February 16th and come learn all you've ever wanted to know about hay. Maybe you'll go home with a \$5, \$10, or even \$20 gift certificate to use at Lomita Feed!

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## TRAIL PROTECTION FUND

Please consider making a donation to the PVPHA Trail Protection Fund. All donors receive recognition with their name in the Dispatch in the following month. All donations are tax-deductible.

Thank you to the following PVPHA members for their generous donation to the Trail Protection Fund:

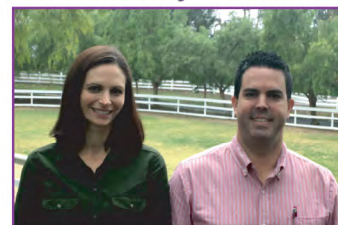
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# The Wonderful Life of Carla Routt

By Kathy Stowe

We have lost a special friend, neighbor, and Rolling Hills historian, Carla Jean Fischer Routt. Carla passed away very peacefully on December 2, 2022 at her historic ranch home in Rolling Hills, surrounded by her loving family and very close friends.

Carla was tireless in all her volunteerism for the various Rolling Hills Estates and Rolling Hills organizations, her sorority, and many family groups she has shared great adventures and loving friendships with. Her family came first and her conversations about their wonderful adventures together outweighed all the splendors of her best Rose Parade stories.

Carla, a Long Beach Mounted Police Life Member, was an amazing woman and equestrian and the most enthusiastic supporter of the LBMP. She was also

the first woman to become a member of the LBMP. During her long career with the LBMP, Carla served as the first woman president of the organization and for the last several years has been LBMP's Treasurer and Captain.

For more on Carla's amazing life, loves, and achievements, please see the article on the following page, which was told by Carla in her own words to *Rolling Hills Living Magazine* in 2018, highlighting Carla's family endeavors and her equestrian lifestyle in our community.

This wonderful article is full of her family's historic legacy of riding and shows proof of her tireless volunteerism and dedication to her many clubs and interests, especially the Long Beach Mounted Police. Thank you to Randy Stager from *Rolling Hills Living Magazine* for allowing us to run this article in the Dispatch.



*This photo, taken by Dr. Ruth Sobeck during the PVPHA Raffle Ride last September, shows Carla (third from the left) with her longtime friend, Kathy Stowe, on her left. It was strictly coincidental that all of these palominos showed up on this corner at the same time with Dr. Sobeck there to photograph it.*



# Meet Carla Routt: Second Generation Rolling Hills Resident

By Carla Routt

Reprinted with permission from *Rolling Hills Living Magazine*, August 2018

Growing up in Rolling Hills was a special privilege in my life. My entire family moved to the city in 1950. My father and mother built the house that I now own; my uncle (mother's brother) and aunt built the house at 1 Flying Mane; my uncle (father's brother) and aunt (mother's sister) built the house at 7 Flying Mane; and my grandparents (mother's side)

built the house on Crest that's directly across the street from the Fire Station. We moved to Rolling Hills so that we could enjoy being together and living the equestrian lifestyle. In 1953, Rolling Hills sent me to represent the city at the California Rodeo in Salinas; I still have the "Miss Rolling Hills" sash.

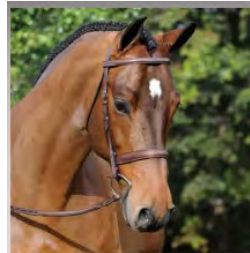
I attended Redondo Union High School then, and met the bus at the corner of Crest and Portuguese Bend Road. I couldn't wait each school day to hurry home, get into my jeans and boots, and ride off

into the beautiful fields of Rolling Hills. Weekend riding was fun, too. Many of the old cowboy movie stars spent the weekends at the home of my grandparents, whom everyone called Mom and Dad. Mom did most of the cooking and we'd gather together for dinner after riding all day.

My grandparents felt that the family who played together would always stay together. We owned three small gas and oil producing companies, but our fun was the breeding of Palomino horses and



*Carla Routt and Kathy Stowe on the trails. All photos provided by Kathy Stowe and not included with original article.*



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Gift Cards  
KAI perfume  
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Western Boots







*2021 annual barbecue at Carla's.*



*Carla with her Rolling Hills neighbors at a tea party in 2022.*

the participation of our horses in all types of competition. My grandfather's horse, Top Hat, won the title of Grand Champion Palomino Sire and his babies were sent all over the world. Guests such as Lady Wentworth of England visited my grandparents in their Rolling Hills home mostly to see Top Hat and to be able to purchase one of his offspring.

My grandfather, Jack Turner, wanted to prove that a Palomino could accomplish anything that other horses could, so he involved them in every kind of competition. The men in the family played polo at the LA Coliseum against the stars of the day's cowboy movies. We put on demonstrations of Roman Riding at the Del Mar Race Track. My horse, Top Hat's Topsy Turvey, won the Pacific Coast Cutting Championship. My grandfather raced Top Hat's Sage against the top racehorse at the Los Alamitos race track and won. The family rode in many parades including the Pasadena Tournament of Roses. We competed in hand classes and saddle competition.

I was the one that did most of the saddle competition. My grandparents hauled my horse and me to many events. When I was 13, I was a competitor at the All Palomino Horse Show in Santa Rosa, California, against Clyde Kennedy, who was considered to be the top horse trainer of the time. In this competition, I rode the horse Top Hat's Sage, which had just come off the Los Alamitos Race Track, and I ended up winning the event.

For many years, my family had the Palomino Barn at the Pomona Fair, where they displayed Top Hat and his babies as well as our assortment of sterling silver



saddles. My grandfather had the famous Hollywood saddle maker Edward H. Bohlin make five of these saddles featuring the heads of real Native American chiefs. The last chief alive when the saddles were completed was Chief Plenty Coupes of the Crows Tribe. He came for the unveiling of the saddle. These saddles (and our horses) were used in several movies, and I still own one.

My grandfather was certainly successful in his mission to demonstrate that Palominos were as versatile, if not more so, than other horses. A tribute to his achievements is represented by a floor-to-ceiling portrait that hangs in my family room today. It shows my grandfather on his grand champion, Top Hat. The portrait was previously displayed in the Gene Autry Southwest Museum in Los Angeles as a testament to my grandfather's historic role in the breeding and raising of champion Palomino horses.

My grandfather began riding with the Long Beach Mounted Police in 1940. The organization was formed in 1935 by businessmen, sportsmen and civic leaders to spotlight the City of Long Beach and celebrate California's equestrian history, but it was my grandfather who convinced them to ride only Palominos. My dad, two uncles, husband, two sons, and one son-in-law all eventually became members. In 1989, I was invited to ride with the LBMP in the Tournament of Roses Parade. At that time, the whole

team was made up of men, but after that parade, I decided I should become a member if they were going to continue to have me ride with them. I wrote a letter to the Long Beach chief of police requesting membership and, after some resistance on the part of some of the older LBMP riders, I finally became the first woman to be a LBMP member. Now, three of my granddaughters are also members of the Long Beach Mounted Police.

Rolling Hills has changed, too. Back in those early days, Rolling Hills had no police; law enforcement was only in the city when invited. This meant that any kid who wasn't on a horse was driving their vehicle too fast up and down the streets. One of my friends had a buckboard with an engine that he would drive all around. He was so small that you could barely see that the buckboard had a driver! Now that I think of it, maybe Rolling Hills hasn't changed all that much. I hear the gate supervisors have some real trouble with fast cars on our winding roads.

These days, I host a yearly luncheon in September for Redondo Union graduates. Many of the friends I grew up with in Rolling Hills attend. And I still own Palominos: Red's Trey Watch, or Trey for short; Chexx Rated, affectionately known as Chexx; and Star N Bert Pal, known as Gunner, keep me in practice and ready to ride.



*Above: The Three Caballeras*

*Right: Carla and Kathy in September 2022*





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# The Funnies: Rules for Dating/ Marrying an Equestrian

- 1) They WILL have layers of clothes and muddy boots....either provide a place for them to drop these things or don't whine about the mess.
- 2) Expensive tack is still cheaper than the horse and human medical bills that can result from cheap tack. Good tack also lasts longer than the horse. Don't question the tack.
- 3) One horse is never enough. Don't even question this. It is a law of the universe.
- 4) Caring for the horse is ALWAYS more expensive than the horse. Whining about the purchase price is pointless.
- 5) When they say, "I'm just going to stop out at the barn for a few minutes." you should probably just make plans on your own the rest of the day.
- 6) That not-a-morning-person that you are used to will completely disappear on the mornings a trailer must be hooked up for a horse-related event. They will be replaced by a bright-eyed super-intense type-A who will NOT care that you need 5 more minutes for your coffee because they need to be at the barn at 5:45 am PRECISELY.
- 7) Vet bills for horses start at 4-digits and go up from there. If it's less than \$1000, pay it quickly and run out of the vet's office before the horse suddenly develops another problem.
- 8 ) No matter how badly your significant other is injured, you should NEVER blame the horse. In fact, don't mention the injury or the horse if you can avoid it. Suggesting they should avoid riding until they are healed will probably get you a crutch upside the head.
- 9) If you don't know what to get for a holiday or birthday, a gift card to the feed store is ALWAYS a good option. If you have messed up somehow, this is an excellent way to get out of the dog house. The value should reflect how much trouble you are in. A bouquet of feed store gift cards is generally sufficient to cover very bad mistakes, such as burning down the house or crashing the truck.
- 10) Your equestrian will be fine if you have your own hobbies and interests. In fact, you had better get your own hobbies and interests. If you want to spend significant time with your equestrian, you need to develop a useful skill...such as driving a tractor, shoveling, operating a video camera, leatherwork of any sort, or becoming a veterinarian.
- 11) Trucks are not optional. Yes, the truck and trailer rig will likely be at least half the cost of your house. Arguing about this is unwise, your equestrian will happily LIVE in the truck and trailer and suggest selling the house.
- 12) Horse craziness is hereditary, generally passed down the maternal lines, but can be present on the paternal side as well. Prepare for this when planning children.
- 13) If you need your equestrian to spend more time at home, we suggest building a barn on your property.
- 14) Dates should be planned in a different county from where the horse is located. If the equestrian gets within 50 miles of the horse, they will need to stop by. You will be stuck there, see point number 5 above.
- 15) Never make it a competition between you and the horse. New significant others generally cost less money and are faster to train than a new horse. Just saying.

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# January Meeting Recap

By Jan Spak

Our January Meeting was an awesome start to 2023! We were so honored to have Sofia and Fred Bernardino as our guest speakers. Their upbeat, informative passion for horses and Working Equitation gave us all a new understanding and inspiration for what we can do to take our own horse skills to a new level. Their PowerPoint presentation explained much of what Working Equitation involves and showed how the competitive pieces of that discipline works. Due to the recent rains, we could not have a live demonstration from Sofia and Fred with their horses, but they promised to come back in the spring and show us in person what this sport entails. Stay tuned as we will definitely look forward to that fun filled evening!

Thank you to Nancy Michalski and the PVCDS, the local chapter of the California Dressage Society who

provided snacks for those who attended the meeting. Members came to support Sophia who grew up in the PV dressage community and to get to know her wonderful husband Fred.

We are all so excited that Sofia and Fred have returned to PV to launch their business and we wish them much success! Welcome Home!

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# MONTHLY PHOTO!

"If I stand on this stump, can I have a cookie?"

Nancy Wildman sent in this photo of her horse Bucky posing in his corral. He could be a model!

Thanks so much for sending in this photo! Submit your horsey photos to [pvpha.dispatch@gmail.com](mailto:pvpha.dispatch@gmail.com) to be featured!



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