



**METROPOLITAN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION**  
OAKLAND - CALIFORNIA

*The MHA*

# ***Trail Blazer***

*Fall 2010*

Published by the

**Metropolitan Horsemen's Association**

***Serving Oakland Horse People since 1938***



*Riders from the Diablo Ladies Drill Team wowed the crowd at the Sequoia Arena September 3, as evening entertainment for the 9th Annual Bay Area Ridge Trail Ride and Hike.*

## **Riding Out the Economic Rodeo**

Despite the difficulties of a weak economy, East Bay horse people make their way to MHA shows and other local events.

For the ninth year, thanks to the tireless leadership of Morris Older of Tilden-Wildcat Horsemen's Association, riders and hikers mobilized to cover as much as 100 miles to raise funds for the Bay Area Ridge Trail. This event has generally raised between ten and fifteen thousand dollars each year, including generous contributions from the nonprofit Bay Area Barns and Trails.

This year saw approximately 38 riders and 38 hikers complete all or part of a challenging route, from the newly opened Fernandez Ranch near Martinez to Kennedy Grove by San Pablo Dam, and up into Tilden Park. After two nights at Es Anderson Horse Camp, the journey continued to Sequoia Arena, for two nights of great trails and fine dining. The final nights were spent at Bort Meadow. In addition to lovely scenery and warm hospitality, there was entertainment every night.

Visit our website: <http://www.mhaoakland.org>

## City Stables Update

During the past year, the dilapidated paddocks that were in front of the historic Rancho San Antonio were demolished, and a mare motel with 16 new covered 12'x12' covered corrals was constructed on the windward side of the ridge. With the existing 14 mini-stalls in the lower barn, this provides 30 stalls for boarders or lesson horses.

About 20 neighbors and interested horse people attended a meeting with city officials August 6 to discuss the progress made to date, and further plans to return the stable to equestrian use. Oakland Parks and Recreation supervisors Mark Zinns and Paul Bates served as point people.

Additional funds from bond measure WWV are available for the construction of corrals and a hay shed.

The city officials are working with an advisory committee of neighbors and other interested parties. Some of those who have expressed interest are Lee Rutter, Judi Bank, Lila Warhaftig, and Eliza Greene. Several community members suggested to the city that they wait on further construction until a new concessionaire has been engaged. The Request for Proposals (RFP) is expected to be announced soon, with input from the advisory group.

If you would like information, please contact Mark Zinns at 482-7812 or [mzinns@oaklandnet.com](mailto:mzinns@oaklandnet.com).



## The MHA Trail Blazer

Fall 2010 issue

### MHA Board of Directors:

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Please feel free to send news, announcements, and gossip to The Trail Blazer via e-mail to

[amelia.marshall@att.net](mailto:amelia.marshall@att.net)

or go postal:

The Trail Blazer / MHA

P.O. Box 2734

Oakland CA 94602

## Tack Sale

**Saturday, September 25**  
**9 a.m.—2 p.m.**

**at Anthony Chabot**  
**Equestrian Center**

14600 Skyline Blvd.  
near Keller Avenue

Follow the signs to discover a wide range of English and Western tack for sale. Come early for the best selection.

For information: Call 465-8573.

## Rodeo at the Cow Palace

Hold on to your hats—the 2010 Grand National Rodeo will come to the San Francisco Cow Palace Wednesday, October 20 through Saturday, October 23. Events start nightly at 7:03 p.m.

For several years, there has been political pressure to demolish and redevelop this historic venue. Good attendance from horse lovers and urban buckaroos will help preserve the Cow Palace for the Bay Area to enjoy.

Please feel free to e-mail Amelia Marshall if you'd like to mount a posse to go to the rodeo.





*Chef Randy Hassell cooks up a feast for the Bay Area Ridge Trail riders and hikers.*



## NELSON PHOTOGRAPHY

Mark Nelson • Michele Nelson

932 60TH STREET  
OAKLAND, CA 94608  
(510) 332-1275

<http://www.nelsonpics.com/>  
[nelson@nelsonpics.com](mailto:nelson@nelsonpics.com)

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*Supporting the MHA for more than a quarter  
century!*



## Black Cowboy Parade Saturday, October 2

Oakland's Black Cowboy Association will celebrate its 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Parade and Heritage Festival on October 2, starting at 10 a.m.

This year's theme will be "Remember When". Country singer Miko Mark will be the Grand Marshal.

The parade will begin and end at DeFremery Park, at 18<sup>th</sup> and Adeline Streets. Participants, some local, some from far away, will ride around Lowell Park at 14<sup>th</sup> Street, between Adeline & Market Streets. We'll expect to see the gang from No-Name Ranch in Hayward, as well as many other trail partners from Oakland.

Following the parade, the day of fun and "Taste of the Old West" will carry on in DeFremery Park until 4 p.m. The public is invited to put on cowboy hats and boots and high-tail it down for food, horse and pony rides, and an array of entertainment and fun for the whole family.

The nonprofit Oakland Black Cowboy Association provides educational programs to honor the contributions of people of color in the settling of the American West.

See their website at  
[www.blackcowboyassociation.org](http://www.blackcowboyassociation.org)



Amelia S. Marshall  
*Your Trail Riding Realtor*  
Prudential Grand Lake Office  
3320 Grand Avenue  
Oakland CA 94602  
**(510) 910-3683**

[amelia.marshall@prurealty.com](mailto:amelia.marshall@prurealty.com)



## 2010 MHA Event Calendar

September 19 Saturday	Gold Cup H / J Show
October 3 Sunday	Miniature Horse and Pony Show
October 16 Saturday	Dressage Schooling Show
TBA***	Volunteer Appreciation Party
TBA	Annual Membership Meeting

Call Judi Bank at 531-5449 for show information or see [www.mhaoakland.org](http://www.mhaoakland.org)

### Sequoia Arena Fence Repair in October

The planned reconstruction of the Sequoia Arena fence is planned for the last two weekends in October.

Volunteers are welcome! Call Melanie Diamond at 527-0747 if you'd like to help. Contribution jars can be found at the announcer's booth during shows or at Vista Madera Feed and Tack.

## News and Notes

- Trail riders seeking a horse trailer staging area at Alvarado / Wildcat Canyon Park are encouraged to attend the public meeting with East Bay Regional Parks (EBRPD) at Riverside Elementary School, Weds. September 22, 6:30-8:30p.m. Wear a cowboy hat.
- Mona Ellingson, beloved barn manager, formerly of Creekside Equestrian Center in Woodacre, has taken the reins as concessionaire of Anthony Chabot Equestrian Center.
- Los Viajeros Riding Club will camp at Bort Meadow October 1 - 3, and will return to the Sequoia Arena in August of next year.
- Ordinance 38, which codifies legal uses of lands and trails in the EBPRD, was revised as of July 20. Despite requests from mountain bikers, the Golden Spike Trail remains off limits to bikes, but is OK for hikers and horses. Bikes will now be allowed in Briones hay field and Crockett Hills.



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