



BAY AREA BARNS AND TRAILS

EDUCATION • STEWARDSHIP • PRESERVATION

WINTER 2006 | SPRING 2007

415-383-6283 • FAX 415-381-3809 • e-mail BABTT@earthlink.net • www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org



Residents enjoying a nap at Mill Valley's Horse Hill

2006 Bay Area Election Results Favored Open Space Protection and Growth Management

In November 2006, Bay Area voters passed six measures to protect open space, control development, and fund parks, as well as a measure to fund affordable housing and transit-oriented development throughout the state. State Proposition 84 provides over \$5 billion in funding for water quality and open space protection. The measure passed with 53.8% of the vote. YES!!

Napa County: Measure I established a Parks and Open Space District, creating a public agency to purchase lands for parks and to maintain and provide access to the 120,000 acres of public open space in the county. The measure passed with 54.4% of the vote. YES!!

Contra Costa County: Measure L renewed the County Urban Limit Line, protecting open space by requiring a vote of county residents for any development outside the line. The measure passed with 63.3% of the vote. YES!!

Sonoma County Measure F: reauthorized the 1/4-cent sales tax for the Sonoma Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, raising an estimated \$17-30 million per year for the maintenance and acquisition of parklands. The measure passed easily with 75% of the vote. YES!!

Solano County Measure J failed to reauthorize the Orderly Growth Initiative, which requires a vote of the people on large developments outside cities, protecting 460,410 acres from sprawl development. The measure failed with 47.3% of the vote. TRY AGAIN!

Santa Clara County Measure A would have protected hillsides, farmlands, and ranchlands by increasing parcel sizes and prohibiting some development on rural county lands. It would also have established protections for scenic views, stream corridors, and sensitive wildlife habitat. The measure failed narrowly with 48.9% of the vote. TRY AGAIN!

Greenbelt Alliance has worked since 1958 to protect open space and promote livable communities throughout the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area, with offices in San Francisco, San Jose, Walnut Creek, Fairfield, and Santa Rosa. -www.greenbelt.org

HELPING PRESERVE LAND, FACILITIES AND TRAILS FOR SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA EQUESTRIANS...AND THEIR HORSES

Bay Area Barns and Trails (BABTT) helps preserve the equestrian heritage in the 'Great Outdoors of the San Francisco Bay Area' by providing financial support and technical assistance to equestrian organizations, public and private landowners, land and trail trusts, and non-profit organizations working cooperatively to preserve and maintain publicly accessible barns, stables, pastures, staging areas, horse camps, and trails throughout Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Mateo, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma Counties.

Partnering with "Horse People" Brings Advantages to Land Trusts

'...across the nation land is rapidly disappearing from many traditionally horse-friendly areas. As a result, horse owners are looking to take an activist role in preserving their landscape and their lifestyle. 'Horse People' are valuable for a number of reasons including their desire for access, their appreciation of green space, and their willingness to contribute time, physical labor and money. Horses are exceptionally compatible with conservation activities...

"The thing about conservation is that it's a regional issue," says Tim DeWitt, executive director of the Bluegrass Conservancy in Kentucky. "No one entity can bring land preservation about. It must be a collaborative and educational process between the government, business and private citizens... horse people can be fantastic allies for the cause of a land trust or conservancy."

Land Trust Alliance 'Exchange' - Fall 2006 p.17 -18
Karen Briggs briggs@csolv.net;
Equestrian Land Conservation Resource
www.elcr.org



2007 Small Grants Available to Bay Area Equestrians and Land Managing Agencies

Equestrian coalitions, public or private landowners, land and trail trusts, and non-profit organizations are invited to apply for financial aid to assist with land, trail and barn acquisition, restoration, or construction. Public education and organizational capacity building grants are also available. Grants - ranging from \$500.00 to \$5,000 are often awarded to match funds earned during equestrian-sponsored rides or events.

Since 1999 BABTT has awarded \$ 98,019 to thirty-five land trusts, agencies and/or equestrian organizations for projects that will help preserve and restore natural areas and wildlife habitat, maintain parks and public open space, equestrian facilities, trails and trailheads.

Application for 2007 Stewardship, Acquisition, Education and Capacity Building Grants: www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org

BAY AREA BARNS & TRAILS Education, Preservation, Stewardship and Capacity Building Grants:

1999 - 2006 \$98,019
2006 \$20,500

ALAMEDA/CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
September 2006 \$5,000
Tilden/Wildcat Horsemen/Metropolitan Horsemen: 5-Day Labor Day Weekend Ride: East Bay Regional Parks District and the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council: Stewardship

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
December 2006 \$2,500
Muir Heritage Land Trust: To support trail planning, construction and organizational needs: Stewardship

MARIN COUNTY
May 2006 \$2,500
Friends of Marin Stables/Marin Municipal Water District:

Purchase new manure storage bin to prevent drainage into neighboring creek: Stewardship

2006 GRANTS continued page 3 >>

Equestrian Event Insurance Available on Properties Preserved by Land Trusts

Concerns were voiced to the Land Trust Alliance (LTA) about a few land trusts that had not been able to secure insurance for horse-riding events (or for city gardens events in NYC.)

LTA intervened and reports that its insurance provider Franey, Muha, Alliant (FMA) has agreed to insure equestrian-related special events held by land trusts for special events such as trail rides, picnics, fundraisers and educational events. FMA will cover equestrian-related special events at nominal or no extra cost. In the Bay Area there are several land trusts which encourage equestrian participation, but their hands were tied until LTA and ELCR found a solution.

Now its time for equestrians to organize fundraising events to support the Muir Heritage Land Trust, the Solano Land Trust, Land Paths, the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council or their local land and trails trust.

Special thanks to Kandee Haertl, Executive Director of the Equestrian Land Conservation Resource (ELCR) and James K. Wyerman of the Land Trust Alliance (LTA) for resolving this issue.

-*Equestrian Land Conservation Resource www.elcr.org*

-*Land Trust Alliance www.lta.org*

Most Comprehensive Horse Study Ever Reveals nearly \$40 Billion Impact on U. S. Economy

'The horse industry in the United States contributes \$39 billion in direct economic impact to the US economy and supports 1.4 million jobs on a full-time basis, according to a study released by the American Horse Council (AHC). When indirect and induced spending are included, the industry's economic impact reaches \$102 billion. The study also estimates the horse population in this country has reached 9.2 million.

The study, titled 'The Economic Impact of the Horse Industry in the United States', is the most comprehensive research document ever compiled on the American horse industry. The study reveals:

- An industry that is both large and economically diverse, as well as a key contributor to the overall fabric of the U.S. economy;
- Horse owners and industry suppliers, racetracks, and off-track betting operations, horse shows and other industry segments all generate discrete economic activity contributing to the vibrancy of the overall industry;
- Of the total economic impacts reported, approximately \$32.0 billion is generated from the recreational segment; \$28.8 billion from the showing segment and \$26.1 billion is generated from the racing segment.

"This study paints a portrait of an industry that operates in every corner of the country and contributes mightily to the American economy and culture," said Jay Hickey, President of the AHC. "Never before has the impact of our industry been so dramatically demonstrated."

- *www.HorseCouncil.org*

- *NLamoureux@horsecouncil.org; jshapes@conovertuttlepace.com*

VISIT, OR JOIN, ONLINE!

www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org

County News

ALAMEDA COUNTY

Oakland City Stables - Pledge, Be An Activist, Volunteer Today!

'A Promising Future is Possible: The City of Oakland shut down this historic stable in 2004...Citizens were outraged that this site - an equestrian facility purchased with Measure K park bond funds in 1994 - would be unable to fulfill its historic purpose...As a publicly owned equestrian center the historic site has the potential to house interpretive programs both recreational and educational including: riding lessons for youth and adults, horse training, trail riding and boarding as well as demonstration agriculture, stable management, and environmental science. Today the property includes facilities built in 1939. The covered arena was built in 1979 and the restroom/snack bar facility was completed in 2003. The 7.2-acre site was once part of the Luis Maria Peralta land grant of 1820 established by the last Spanish governor of Alta California (Mexico). It was subsequently divided between the four sons of Don Luis. Ygnacio Peralta received 9,416 acres which included this land. Ygnacio resided in the family adobe located near 34th Avenue and Paxton - that land is now Peralta Hacienda Historic Park. The City Stables site was part of the family's winter pasturage. Other owners of the property included Robert Simson, Realty Syndicate Company (Francis 'Borax' Smith), and the Aahmes Shrine. The Shriners used the facility to board and train their black and white pinto horses. During the 40s, 50s and 60s the stable was called Rancho San Antonio after the original Rancho. In the 70s, Harry and Mary Dunn owned the stable and ran a boarding and training business named "Vista Madera Stables" until 1994...'

Metropolitan Equestrian Preservation Society: 'MEPS'

-www.oaklandcitystables.org ...get inspired... get involved!

Tilden Wildcat Horsemen and Metropolitan Horsemen raise \$19,500!

Tilden Wildcat Horsemen and Metropolitan Horsemen hosted their fifth annual Five-Day East Bay Hills Benefit Ride over the 2006 Labor Day weekend. The 2006 event netted about \$19,500 which included a grant of \$5,000 from Bay Area Barns and Trails. Funds will be donated for stewardship projects along East Bay Trails and to the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council. 92 enthusiastic riders (and 70 volunteers!) rode East Bay Regional Parks trails and camped in Es Anderson Equestrian Camp, Sequoia Arena and the Concord Mt. Diablo Trail Ride Association property in Clayton. Bay Area Barns and Trails has donated \$20,000 over five years to support this outstanding fundraiser because it illustrates how equestrians and volunteers - working in partnership with public and private organizations - can publicize, build and maintain East Bay equestrian trails.

- www.tbwa.org

SAN MATEO COUNTY

Huddart and Wunderlich Parks Draft Master Plan Includes Bay Area Ridge Trail

On March 14, 2006, the Town Council of the Town of Woodside considered the revised version of the draft Master Plan for Huddart and Wunderlich Parks and adopted a formal position which included continued use of Bay Area Ridge Trail (BARTC) and to plan for establishment of another Bay Area Ridge Trail alignment on the west side of Skyline Boulevard that would be open to bicyclists and also link the Corte Madera and Purisima trail system.

The Council supports collaborative approach to identifying a viable valley- to-Skyline alternative that does not utilize either Huddart or Wunderlich Park; believes that use of these parks by hikers and equestrians should be protected from the road and mountain biking.

- www.woodsidetown.org/PDF/HWStatement.pdf

Sam Herzberg, Senior Planner, San Mateo County Parks Department

- SHerzberg@co.sanmateo.ca.us

.... 2006 GRANTS Continued

MARIN COUNTY

October 2006 \$500
Alto Bowl Horseowner's Association/Marin County Open Space District:

Habitat Restoration/Invasive Plant Removal: Stewardship/Volunteer Support

MARIN COUNTY

December 2006 \$1,000
Golden Gate National Recreation Area/Marin Headlands' Mounted Horse Patrol: Education/Program Support

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

May 2006 \$1,000
Santa Clara County Land Conservation Initiative: PLAN

Help protect hillsides, watersheds, ridgeline and other valuable natural areas: Education & Capacity Building

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

May 2006 \$500
Friends of the San Jose Mounted Unit: 20th Anniversary: Capacity Building

SOLANO & CONTRA COSTA COUNTIES

May 2006 \$2,500
Michael Muir/Access Adventure: Assist with purchase of two Thornlea Carriages for Disabled visitors to Muir Heritage & Solano Land Trust properties: Education

SOLANO COUNTY

December 2006 \$2,500
Solano Land Trust: To support equestrian trails: construction and management: Stewardship

SONOMA COUNTY

May 2006 \$2,500
Back Country Horsemen, North Bay Unit/ Army Corp of Engineers

Construction of a Shade Cover within the Dining Area of the Lake Sonoma Horse Camp: Stewardship



Thornlea Carriage for disabled visitors on Muir Heritage & Solano Land Trust properties.



"Isn't it great that Save Mount Diablo saved the 320 acres in Irish Canyon!"

The Bay Area Ridge Trail -- Connecting Equestrian Communities: Traveling Slide Program

Morris Older from the Tilden-Wildcat Horsemen's Association has been presenting a slide program to equestrian clubs throughout the Bay Area. Morris describes how - from the conception of the Bay Area Ridge Trail, and in fact years before that - equestrians supported and were crucial to the idea of creating trail connections around the Bay. The show focuses on how many of the 300 miles of Bay Area Ridge Trail, dedicated between 1988 and 2006, are now enjoyed by equestrians. It also includes great photos of the East Bay Hills terrain enjoyed during the 2003-2005 Multi-Day Benefit Rides. The show will be presented by Morris Older, who assembled the show with the help of Connie Berto, Jim Steere, DVM, Barbara Weitz and many other equestrians from around the Bay. - ebhillsride@comcast.net

Bay Area Open Space Council Annual Conference

The Bay Area Open Space Council is a collaborative of over fifty-five member organizations actively involved in permanently protecting and stewarding important parks, trails and agricultural lands in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. Its vision is to protect an ADDITIONAL one million acres of open space, thus doubling the amount of protected lands in the region.

Nancy Couperus, Janet Carpinelli, Karen Johnson and Barbara Weitz hosted BABT's 2006 display during the 2006 conference - one of fifty booths presented by land trusts, land managing agencies, environmental groups and consulting firms.

The eighth annual BAOSC conference will be held June 12, 2007. Volunteers will be needed. -www.openspacecouncil.org

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO DAY 1,000 / PARK DEPARTMENT FINALLY MOVING ON REHABBING S.F. PUBLIC STABLES: CHRONICLEWATCH - Working for a better Bay Area: Saturday, November 18, 2006

Saddling up at the last public horse stables in San Francisco is still a long way off. "For 1,000 days, the stables in Golden Gate Park have remained closed while the city has been mucking about in red tape, weighed down by city staff shortages and mired in bureaucratic delays. "It will take a Herculean effort to clean up that stable mess," Supervisor Jake McGoldrick said Friday.

ChronicleWatch began reporting on the 1930s-era stables in February 2004, after several tipsters asked us when the equestrian center would reopen. At the time, city Department of Recreation and Parks officials told us the stables were closed in 2001 after the company that ran the site left before its contract was up. The concessionaire had failed to do regular maintenance on the stables, officials say. They also told us that an environmental-impact review of the grounds and structures -- which was supposed to take 18 months to complete -- was already under way. But when we checked back eight months later, in October 2004, parks spokeswoman Rose Marie Dennis told us her agency in fact hadn't started the review -- and hoped to avoid having to carry it out to save the \$100,000 cost of the study.

Parks officials later discovered that grandstands for the Golden Gate Park Polo Fields behind the stables were considered a historic landmark, and therefore under state law there was no way around a formal environmental review. By November 2004, the parks department submitted the paperwork to get the review going, but staffing shortages at the city Planning Department and an extended search for a company with the expertise to do the work delayed its start further. The review -- which includes an evaluation of the property, soil, historical data and environmental factors, and a public comment period -- finally began this past March. It is now due to be completed by May.

When the last stable door closed in 2001, pessimistic riders worried they would never reopen. Five years later, it is not surprising that even horseflies have given up on finding any action back in the ring." I've gotten a lot of hot air on its progress over the years," said McGoldrick, referring to the claims by bureaucrats responsible for the project. In August this year -- five months after the start of the environmental review -- he called city parks officials before the Board of Supervisors to layout a timeline for the reopening of the stables. According to the schedule that was presented, the design work should begin in June 2007 and take a year. Construction -- including installation of a covered area and new stalls -- could begin by June 2008. The stables could reopen in fall 2009.

At least one tipster finds the progress in the last few months encouraging. John Cummings, chairman of the San Francisco Stables Foundation, which has been working on fundraising efforts for the stables for the past five years, believes that the project is finally on the right track. "It has the full attention of the park staff now," he said. "There is a consensus about how to put the pieces in place in order to get things done. The city had to make a decision about what will happen out there. Who will the facility serve? It has to serve the widest population possible, including disadvantaged youth, nonprofit and community groups, as well as the general population." The foundation is close to completing an agreement with another nonprofit group, the Parks Trust, which raises money for the parks system in general, Cummings said. He believes it will be a big step toward securing the future of the stables project. "I'm very hopeful," he said. "We are all focused on moving forward and working together to get things done."

-Suzanne Pullen - spullen@sfchronicle.com.

-San Francisco Stables Foundation www.sfsf.org

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Now Planning for Public Lands South and North of San Francisco: The National Park Service (NPS) is currently working on two separate plans that could impact equestrian recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Both projects have started their environmental review processes and have opened their respective public scoping periods.

GGNRA managed parks include Tomales Bay, Olema Valley and Bolinas Lagoon (abutting to Point Reyes National Seashore), Marin Headlands, Presidio, Ocean Beach, Fort Funston, Milagra and Sweeney ridge in Pacifica, Phleger Estate in Woodside.

In the southern sector of the 'ten equestrian organizations are members of ETRAC, an umbrella organization for horsemen in San Mateo County. San Mateo County Equestrians have been attending all of the public meetings on this subject and have provided extensive input into the process. As part of ETRAC, the CHAT, or Coastside Horse Action for Trails, will be creating a vision statement for ETRAC which will attempt to plan and track both N-S and E-W equestrian trails opportunities, including horse camps from Wilder Ranch in Santa Cruz to McNee State Park in Pacifica. ETRAC would like to have a write-in network available should public comment become necessary.'

-www.nps.gov/goga/parkmgmt/southern-marin-equestrian-plan
-Adda Quinn www.californiastatehorsemen.com/envirohorse.htm

SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma's Tolay Lake Ranch: The Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District and the Sonoma County Regional Parks Department have purchased Tolay Lake Ranch. In April 2005, all their hard work paid off when the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to purchase the land. Now the land's rich historic and prehistoric past, including vast cultural resources, will be preserved forever.

Restoration of historic Tolay Lake will occur in coordination with interested resource agencies and local partners and neighbors. There will be many opportunities for public input during the park planning process. The development of the site into a Regional Park, including the restoration of Tolay Lake and any restoration of existing structures, requires preparation of a Park Master Plan and environmental document pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

The acquisition establishes a long-awaited regional park in the southern portion of Sonoma County, easily accessible to northern Marin, southern Napa, and Solano Counties. There are opportunities to establish multi-use trails for cycling, hiking and equestrian use. The site also offers opportunities for bird-watching, picnicking, and interpretation of natural and cultural resources. There are several high points on the site that provide spectacular views of the Petaluma River basin, Mt. Tamalpais, San Francisco, Oakland, Mt. Diablo, Mt. St. Helena, as well as other landmarks in the six adjacent counties.

- *Sonoma County Agriculture and Open Space District*
www.sonoma-county.org/opensp/aboutus.htm
- *Sonoma County Regional Parks* www.sonoma-county.org/parks

New Trail at Hood Mountain Regional Park & Open Space Preserve: The addition of the 307- acre former Johnson Ranch to Hood Mountain Regional Park provides enhanced access from the Highway 12 scenic corridor. Acquired in 2003 by the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District, the Park now includes a new 5-mile segment of the 500-mile Bay Area Ridge Trail. The new multi-use trail winds through the former ranch, connecting to Hood Mountain Trail near the 2,730-foot summit. Check it out soon!

-www.ridgetrail.org

George Cardinet Jr., 97 **Father of state and federal trails systems** **April 8, 1909 - January 19, 2007**

A trail activist since the early 1940s, Cardinet was considered by many to be the father of the California trails system. He was instrumental in developing the state's first long-distance hiking and equestrian trails and in getting legislation passed that established a federal trails system in 1968. Cardinet, who lived on a ranch in Concord, Calif., died Jan. 19 while visiting a friend in Mexico City, said his son, George H. Cardinet III.

'Outfitted as a Spanish explorer, George H. Cardinet Jr. led a team of re-enactors on a 900-mile horseback ride that snaked north from Mexico through California in 1976. The modern quest closely followed the path that Juan Bautista de Anza had traveled 200 years before. Cardinet, then in his late 60s, was one of the few riders to complete the journey that brought attention to his most passionate cause: He wanted the route recognized as a national historic trail.

"Without George, the national trails system wouldn't have the shape or breadth it does today," said Steve Elkington, National Trails System program leader for the National Park Service. "George was larger than life, one of those giants on whose shoulders we all stand." The National Trails System Act recognized an extensive system of scenic and historic trails. It included the Pacific Crest Trail - even though it was not officially completed until 1993 - only after intense lobbying by Cardinet, said Nancy Dupont, director of the Heritage Trails Fund, a nonprofit she and Cardinet helped found in 1980 to develop and preserve trails....

...With his strong sense of history, Cardinet was drawn to the Anza Trail, named for the explorer who led the colonizing expedition to San Francisco Bay. Cardinet played a key role in getting the route designated a national historic trail in 1990, said Stanley Bond, superintendent of the trail for the National Park Service.

Instead of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the:
George H. Cardinet Jr. Memorial Trails Fund
P.O. Box 612
Clayton, CA. 94517

-valerie.nelson@latimes.com
-heritagetrailsfund htrails@earthlink.net

Southern Marin Equestrian Plan

The Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, has begun the environmental impact analysis process for the Southern Marin Equestrian Plan. This management plan will propose options for the future use of three Marin County stables located on GGNRA land and will address site and facility needs, improvements, and protection of important resources at and surrounding the sites. The plan will also identify and enhance the public outreach and equestrian programs, identify Best Management Practices and sustainable programs, increase protection of natural resources, and preserve the cultural resources that abound the stables.

The NPS provides space and facilities (stalls, riding rings, trailer parking) for various equestrian activities, such as riding lessons and the boarding of horses at the following locations:

- Presidio Riding Club Stables
- Miwok Stables
- Golden Gate Dairy Stables

GGNRA had a public scoping meeting located at the Mt. Tamalpais Community Center in late May, 2006. Over 80 participants attended the meeting where the GGNRA Project Manager Andrea Lucas presented the outline of the project and the public provided comments and supplied feedback. The public scoping period was open to receive comments for thirty days. Public comments were provided at the meeting, by letter and on this website. Approximately 60 substantive individual comments were received in addition to the many comments received on the flip charts at the meeting. The comments are in the process of being reviewed and summarized. Garcia and Associates has been selected to prepare the alternatives and prepare an environmental assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Protection Act. They will start the work at the beginning of February. The alternatives will cover operations, programs, and site planning at the stables sites. The EA is expected to be released for a 30-day public comment period in Summer/Fall of 2007.

To be included on the Equestrian Plan mailing list, send your address to:
Superintendent
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn: Andrea Lucas
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
- Andrea_Lucas@nps.gov

Invasive Weed Research Underway

Horses and weed spreading have been an issue for some time now. The American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) recently helped fund a 'weed' study conducted by the Department of Forestry-University of Wisconsin. Also, Dominican University is investigating whether horses contribute to the spread of noxious and invasive weeds into California's national parks. That study is part of a \$100,000 NPS grant awarded last year to Dominican to study ways to slow the spread of non-native plants and noxious weeds in California's national parks. There have long been comments, assumptions, hypotheses, and anecdotal information that some seeds viably pass through the horse gut, and once in horse manure, they ultimately sprout, grow, and germinate. Supposedly, some of these plants could be noxious or invasive weeds. Several states, including Colorado, Nevada, and Montana, require horse owners to feed their animals feed that has been certified as weed seed free before traveling over state and federal lands.

The first phase of the three-part Dominican University study began in 2006 when samples of horse manure were collected randomly from pastures, corrals, paddocks, stalls, and trails throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. (Thank you, Bonnie Davis!) Forty-five samples were collected and stored using sterile procedures. Samples were then split into two: with one set of samples dried and the other set sealed in individual sterile bags. After one week, both dry and wet samples were weighed and planted individually in sterile 4-inch pots containing weed free soil for a total of 90 samples. The samples were left to grow in an enclosed, netted potting shed located three feet off the ground. They were monitored daily for comment notes, growth, and photos for two months. Of the 90 pots, 34 plants germinated in 21 pots of which 12 represented dry and nine represented wet samples respectively. All plants were identified by a member of the California Native Plant Society. None of the plants identified are listed as noxious weeds by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). Two additional phases of the study will be conducted from throughout the state. Samples will be collected from Lassen National Park, Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, Point Reyes National Seashore, Golden Gate NRA, and Juan Bautista National Historic Trail. Collection sites will include trails, trailheads, stables, barns, and pastures. Once it is determined what plants grow in horse manure, Dominican University researchers will work with the NPS to develop directives that the NPS can adopt in California for the use of weed free feed. Dominican also received a \$10,000 grant from California-based 'EnviroHorse' in support of the horse study. Envirohorse is editing the findings for submission to a peer review journal.

Additional studies such as the one funded by AERC/University of Wisconsin are needed. If you think horsemen should have a seat at the table in this research, make your contribution payable to the 'Marin Horse Council' and mail to:

Envirohorse/Adda Quinn, 3027 St. James Rd, Belmont CA 94002.
Donations tax-deductible.

- www.dominican.edu/index.html
- www.californiastatehorsemen.com/envirohorse.htm
- www.aerc.org





Images from BABTT's membership gift - a beautiful series of 6 photo-cards displaying pastured horses in areas bordering development by photographer, and horseowner, Aviva Rossi.

Bay Area Barns and Trails Needs YOUR Help!

The saddest words a horse enthusiast can hear are: "There once were horses here." Whether spoken of a dilapidated barn, closed trail, or pasture now tightly overgrown with tract houses, the loss of horse 'habitat' means the ultimate loss of horses from our lives and landscapes.

In the Bay Area, horse habitat is constantly threatened. Lands are sold and barns are leveled. Political decisions are made which do not favor horses...Like any endangered species, horses depend on specific locations to survive and thrive... and if loss reaches a critical point, 'species' support in the form of retail businesses, vets, farriers, trainers, and stable operations also vanish.

Bay Area Barns and Trails (BABTT) was founded in 1999 to counter and reverse these losses. BABTT hopes to help preserve our horse culture by supporting projects organized by equestrian organizations, landowners, land trusts, and land managing agencies. Since its inception BABTT has provided over \$98,000 to help preserve equestrian trails, horse facilities, or at-risk open spaces.

BABTT's income comes from individuals, families, organizations, businesses and private foundations --- all of whom are horse enthusiasts who understand what's truly at stake. Although BABTT has worked energetically to protect and preserve horse habitat for you and your children, the less-than-best news is BABTT has not been able to support certain projects - especially acquisitions - because of unavailable funds.

Please act on your love of open lands, equines, and equestrian activities by 'joining up' with Bay Area Barns and Trails and support projects proposed by Bay Area equestrian organizations, landowners, land trusts, and land managing agencies.

Please JOIN Bay Area Barns and Trails - become a member in 2007!
Use our easy and secure option to join online, or mail in the attached form

www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org

NEW! MEMBERSHIP GIFT Receive a set of six elegantly packaged photo-cards, showing horses enjoying their rural life on San Francisco Bay Area public and private lands, as our thanks for joining or renewing your membership in 'Bay Area Barns and Trails' at the \$100.00 level or above. View all the photos at our website.

Bay Area Ridge Trail Council: 'New Santa Clara County Park plus 4.5 miles of Bay Area Ridge Trail Dedicated'

Over 100 equestrians attended the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department dedication of nearly 14 miles of new trails at Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch County Park ... trail improvements include a new 4.5-mile section of the famed Bay Area Ridge Trail network, planned as a 500-mile trail encircling the Bay Area to provide access for hikers, equestrians, mountain bicyclists and outdoor enthusiasts..."We're pleased to see nearly five miles added to the Ridge Trail network," said Holly Van Houten, executive director for the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council.

Funding for the project was provided from the County's Park Charter Fund and two important partnerships: 1) the California Coastal Conservancy's \$200,000 grant from the voter-approved Proposition 12 state park bond, as administered by the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council, and 2) the Santa Clara Valley Water District's \$200,000 grant from its Trails, Parks and Open Space Grant Program. www.ridgetrail.org

BAY AREA BARNs AND TRAILS DIRECTORS* AND ADVISORS

ALISTAIR BLEIFUSS* - Bodega
NANCY COUPERUS - Los Altos Hills
JUDY ETHERIDGE* - Sunol
KAREN JOHNSON* - San Francisco
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ERIC SCHROEDER - Berkeley
WILLIAM SYMMES* - Novato
MARILYN TERSTEGGE - Orinda
BARBARA WEITZ* - Mill Valley

Grateful thanks to retiring Directors and Advisors: Chip Hankins, Bonnie Davis and Deb Adair.

Their participation has been greatly appreciated. We will miss them!

Welcome to Dagmar Hoheneck of Sonoma County. Dagmar is actively involved with helping preserve the Tolay Property and is an active member of the Sonoma Horse Council.



BAY AREA BARNS & TRAILS

EDUCATION • STEWARDSHIP • PRESERVATION

415-383-6283 • FAX 415-381-3809 • e-mail babtt@earthlink.net • www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org
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*“Just give me land, lots of land, under
starry skies above, Don't fence me in.
Let me ride through the wide open
country that I love, Don't fence me in.”*

- COLE PORTER



TO:

address correction requested

GIFTS CARDS FOR THE HORSEY SET!

Six elegantly packaged photo-cards show horses enjoying their rural life on San Francisco Bay Area public and private lands. Aviva Rossi, photographer and horse owner, has created a series of photographs that display pastured horses in areas bordering development. A set of six beautifully packaged cards will make excellent gifts for anyone who loves horses, rural areas, the great outdoors, and wants to support the BABTT mission: preserving lands for horses!

The cards are made with actual glossy photographs, suitable for framing. Each card is individually packaged to protect the quality of the photograph. The package of six cards is attractively packaged together and is available for \$25.00. The cost of shipping is included!

(You may also receive one lovely card set at no additional cost as our thanks for joining or renewing your membership in 'Bay Area Barns and Trails' at the \$100.00 level or above.) View all the photos at our website.

TO ORDER Fill out the form on right

Join UP! With your generous financial contribution, the Bay Area Barns and Trails can do more to help preserve our equestrian lifestyle - acre by acre - barn by barn - trail by trail! **THANK YOU for your generosity!**

Your support at any level will help make possible the continuation of our efforts to protect and preserve Bay Area equestrian organizations, landowners, land trusts, and land managing agencies. Your donation is tax-deductible. E.I.N. #68-0442986

JOIN ONLINE at secure website: GROUNDSPRING.org, Or...mail your check to:
Bay Area Barns & Trails P. O. Box 2435 Mill Valley, CA 94942

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| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Individual/Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Trail Partner | <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 Open Space Protector |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Stewardship Advocate | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 Silver Snaffle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Business | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 Barn Raiser! | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000 Diamond Horseshoe |

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(s) _____ e-mail _____

- New Member** **Renewing Member** **Gift Membership**
- Gift Cards:** Please ship _____ set(s) of cards @ \$25 per set (includes shipping) = \$ _____

OR JOIN ONLINE
IT IS EASY & SECURE! www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org