



'Helping Preserve Equestrian Lands and Trails in the Great Outdoor San Francisco Bay Area

REGIONAL E-NEWS FROM 'BAY AREA BARNS AND TRAILS'

JULY 6, 2006 (1 of 3 pages)

Please POST OR FORWARD this E-News to Bay Area equestrians, organizations, riding facilities and land managing agencies.

Oakland City Stables Poised for New Management Team

'The Office of Parks and Recreation (OPR) is pleased to let you know that we will be recommending MEPS (Metropolitan Equestrian Preservation Society) to City Council as the concessionaire for City Stables. After a competitive process, MEPS was chosen because their proposal seemed to demonstrate the necessary commitment to City Council goals for the site (to provide programs for under-served Oakland youth) and their revitalization plan for City Stables appears to be consistent with those goals.

It is, of course, up to City Council to determine whether MEPS' plan fits with the City's needs for the site. We will be making our report to the Life Enrichment Committee of the Council on Tuesday, July 11, 2006 at 6 p.m. and will make our report to the full Council on Tuesday, July 18, 2006 (meeting starts at 6 p.m.). If City Council accepts our recommendation, it is our hope to have an agreement in place sometime in August 2006.

Kip Walsh , City of Oakland-Office of Parks and Recreation

250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3330 - Oakland, California 94612 (510) 238-PARK

-June 2006

Land Trust Alliance Will Now Insure Equestrian Events on Land Trust Properties

Thanks to Solano Land Trust (SLT) Executive Director Marilyn Farley and Muir Heritage Land Trust Executive Director Tina Batt and Executive Assistant Mary Alice Stadum, who have worked tirelessly with James K. Wyerman, Director of Communications & Development for the Land Trust Alliance - whose insurance company was unwilling to provide coverage for equestrian events on lands preserved by these Trusts.

After hours (and hours!!) of discussion, LTA's insurance agency has agreed to insure equestrians who are riding across these protected lands. (Thank you, Jim!)

Kandee Haertl from the Equestrian Land Conservation Resource was also very helpful in resolving this issue.

It is important to realize that land trusts are *not public agencies*: they do not have access to insurance coverage enjoyed by public agencies.

Now, let's have some fundraising rides for SLT and MHLT.

Bay Area Barns and Trails will match funds raised...up to \$5,000.

www.solanolandtrust.org

www.muirheritagelandtrust.org

www.lta.org

www.elcr.org

-June 2005



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Insurance Problem: Background: 2004 and 2005:

Land Trust Has Problem Obtaining Insurance for Equestrian Rides

In early 2004 the Solano Land Trust hosted a meeting to recruit equestrian docents to lead trail rides on Lynch Canyon lands. Eight equestrians met and discussed how they could help SLT organize rides. However, we recently learned that no equestrian rides have taken place when we were contacted by a Vacaville resident who moved from Walnut Creek so that her Tennessee Walking horses could have more room near her home. However she learned to her surprise that she would not be able to ride on Lynch Canyon lands because SLT has been denied insurance for equestrians. SLT's new Executive Director Marilyn Farley tells us that she wants to help equestrians enjoy the beauty of the lands preserved by the Trust. (Currently hikes and bike rides already occur with local clubs leading the way. Why not horses?) However, SLT's insurance agency does not want to insure equestrian riders. BABTT is working with the Equestrian Land Conservation Resource, the Land Trust Alliance, and other insurance companies to solve the problem. www.solanolandtrust.org

- September 2005

Photographer seeks views of Bay Area horse properties adjacent to (or overlooking) sprawl development

Aviva Rossi, renowned Bay Area photographer, has contracted with BABTT to photograph new housing developments or 'commercial' buildings that have sprung up in previously rural areas, next to or overlooking existing horse pastures or stables.

Our goal is to produce gift cards which illustrate *why* Bay Area Barns and Trails is working to reduce sprawl, encourage adherence to urban growth boundaries, and educate voters about the choices they can make when planning for the next generation...will there be homes for horses in our future??

'It is difficult to find locations that 1) show horses where they live, 2) in grassy pasture, 3) with very dense development adjacent. I'm sure that they are out there, so any feedback you get from people on locations would be very welcome.'

Contact BABTT@earthlink.net or phone 415-383-6283

-June,2006

Golden Gate Park Stables update from 'Chronicle Watch: April 2006

"Apparently, the lengthy preliminary paperwork to launch the Environmental Impact Report has been finished, and a group hired to do the EIR. This is expected to begin anytime now, and should take about a year to complete. At some point during the year-long process, we are told there will be a public meeting to let citizens know what the findings are. After the EIR, a call for designs for the stable upgrades will be the next stage.

Contact Yomi Agunbiade, San Francisco Parks Manager: 415-831-2700 yomi.agunbiade@sfgov.org



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REGIONAL E-NEWS FROM 'BAY AREA BARNS AND TRAILS' JULY 6, 2006 (3 of 3 pages)
 Education, Preservation, Stewardship, and Capacity Building Grants 1999 - 2006 \$ 87,019; Pending: \$ 12,700

Support equestrian land and trails preservation projects: [www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org/Donate Now](http://www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org/DonateNow)

Alameda/Contra Costa County (pending) 2006 \$5,000

Tilden/Wildcat Horsemen/Metropolitan Horsemen: 5-Day Labor Day Weekend Ride:
 benefit East Bay Regional Parks District and the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council: Stewardship

Contra Costa County (pending) 2006 \$2,500

Mokelumne Coast To Crest Trail/East Bay Regional Parks District: Education/Trail Signs

Marin County May 2006 \$ 2,500

Friends of Marin Stables/Marin Municipal Water District: Stewardship
 Purchase new manure storage bin to prevent drainage into neighboring creek

Marin County (pending) 2006 \$2,500

California State Parks/Samuel P. Taylor State Park: Stewardship
 Construct equestrian/bicycle bridge across coho-salmon spawning site in Devil's Gulch Creek,

Marin County (pending) 2006 \$ 2,500

Miwok Valley Association/Golden Gate National Recreation Area: Stewardship
 Restore five horse paddocks with Dri-Fill to protect neighboring creek

Marin County (pending) 2006 \$ 200.

Alto Bowl Horseowner's Association/Marin County Open Space District:
 Habitat Restoration/Invasive Plant Removal: Stewardship/Volunteer 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

Sonoma County May 2006 \$2,500

Back Country Horsemen, North Bay Unit/ Army Corp of Engineers: Stewardship
 Construction of a Shade Cover within the Dining Area of the Lake Sonoma Horse Camp.

'BAY AREA BARNS AND TRAILS' E-News-July 2006 - 3 of 3 pages

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