



BAY AREA BARNs & TRAILS TRUST

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



Horses Appreciate Hillsides in the East Bay Regional Parks District

'The Saddest Words... 'there once were horses here'

The saddest words a horse enthusiast can hear are: "There once were horses here." Whether spoken of a dilapidated barn, or closed trail, or meadow pastures 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. 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.

Over the last five years BABTT has donated \$81,000 for projects that are helping preserve equestrian trails, horse facilities, or at-risk open space. However, many projects seeking support from BABTT have been declined because of unavailable funding.

BABTT's income comes from horse enthusiasts who understand what's truly at stake. We will need to create an endowment fund that will allow us to support local organizations trying to purchase open lands and equestrian facilities.

To make a real difference, the Bay Area Barns and Trails Trust must raise at least one million dollars...to help buy and restore property!

Please act on your love of open lands, equines, and equestrian activities by contributing to Bay Area Barns and Trails: to help save a stall, a paddock, a trail, a pasture... join our efforts to preserve all things equine in the Bay Area.

With your generous financial contribution, the Bay Area Barns and Trails Trust can do much more to help preserve our equestrian lifestyle – acre by acre – barn by barn – trail by trail!

Thank you for your generosity and for your confidence,

Barbara Weitz, Executive Director
Bay Area Barns and Trails Trust
babtt@earthlink.net

HELPING PRESERVE LANDS AND TRAILS FOR SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA EQUESTRIANS...AND THEIR HORSES!

Mission: The Bay Area Barns and Trails Trust (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 coalitions - 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.

"McMansions" might be built on the Alum Rock Stables property?"

-New Neighborhood Voice – June 5, 2005

Q. Is it true that several new McMansions" might be built on the Alum Rock Stables property near the old entrance to Alum Rock Park? Aren't there some people in our area who care about the old stable and want to see it preserved? Can't something be done?

A. The old barn and ring are sitting idle and have been closed for several years now. The owner could sell it and it could be developed for several houses at any time.

"There is an organization called The Bay Area Barns and Trails Trust which has as its mission the preservation of old barns and equestrian properties in the Bay Area. However, BABTT hasn't yet caught the attention of people in our neighborhood who would like to see the stable restored and brought back to life as a viable equestrian resource. BABTT has been trying to negotiate with the City of San Jose to clear up a sticky (but not insurmountable) right-of-way situation, but the lack of interest from "Us the People" around here has left BABTT dangling."

New Neighborhood Voice, Judy Thompson, Editor
www.nvnesj.org

Programs & Partners

BABTT'S partners are grassroots activists and conservationists who appreciate the need to protect wildlife, agriculture and outdoor recreation through voluntary land preservation and old-fashioned hard work. Since 2000 BABTT has awarded \$81,000 in acquisition, stewardship, education, and capacity building to twenty-five land trust and equestrian organizations throughout the Bay Area.

BABTT maintains an informative website containing news from the nine-county Bay Area, 'Success Stories' and 'Commentary' from around the country, plus links to local, state and national land preservation resources and equestrian organizations. Members receive the 'Barns and Trails' E-News that describe events, challenges, and requests for action.

2006 Application Form for Grant Support:
www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org/grants

Bay Area Open Space Council 7th Annual Conference – May 2005

Morris Older, Karen Johnson and Barbara Weitz hosted BABTT's new display – one of fifty booths presented by land trusts, land managing agencies, environmental groups and consulting firms. BABTT was strategically placed next to the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council's booth which enabled BABTT to use the Ridge Trail Map to pinpoint our funded projects.

www.bayareaopenspacecouncil.org

California Council of Land Trusts

BABTT became a founding member of CCLT which is working to protect and advance the needs of local land trusts by advancing and shaping funding measures creating supportive law and policies, increasing communications about and between land trusts. www.calandtrusts.org

Land Trust Alliance

BABTT has been a member of the Land Trust Alliance since 2000. BABTT Board of Directors agreed to the LTA 'Standards and Practices' in 2002 and will discuss approving the revised 2004 S&P during their 2005 Annual Meeting.

'Standards and Practices' are the ethical and technical guidelines for the responsible operation of a land trust:

lta.org/sp/land_trust_standards_and_practices.pdf

County News

ALAMEDA COUNTY

Oakland City Stables: Metropolitan Equestrian Preservation Society' Succeeds!

'After the breakdown in negotiations earlier this year, Oakland Parks and Recreation staff apparently concluded that the only thing to do with City Stables was to padlock and shutter it permanently. Because it was acquired with funds approved by a voter referendum, Measure K, it was unclear whether the property can be sold. Local horse advocates learned of this possibility, and went to a June 14th meeting of the City Council's Life Enrichment subcommittee, comprised of 4 Council members. 17 equestrians signed up to speak and over double that number were in attendance. The committee voted to recommend that the full Council set aside the staff recommendation and instead issue a more realistic Request For Proposals, with a more realistic timeline. They also recommended that the East Bay Conservation Corps be allowed to use the property for a non-equestrian camp this summer. The full Council approved both of these proposals a week later...

Proposals for Concession Services for the Oakland City Stables

For Immediate Release – Thursday, November 17, 2005

'The City of Oakland is soliciting proposals from individuals, organizations, teams, or firms interested in providing concession services for the Oakland City Stables ("City Stables"), under the direction on the Office of Parks and Recreation (OPR). In order to submit a proposal, prospective concessionaires must first demonstrate their qualifications. A detailed description of the applicant's qualifications is due and must be received at the Office of Parks and Recreation, 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3330, no later than 4:00 p.m., on Thursday, February 16, 2006. Applications are to be addressed to the attention of the Director, Office of Parks and Recreation.

City of Oakland-Office of Parks and Recreation

250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3330 - Oakland, California 94612

(510) 238-PARK

Download the RFQ packet:

www.oaklandnet.com/parks/news/111705a.asp?dwnFile=/parks/0/doc/111705_citystablerfq.pdf

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Walnut Creek/Contra Costa County Equestrian Trail Advocates (ETA)

You can help keep track of what is being considered by the city, county, state, and parks district that will have an impact on equestrian trail issues; help identify access trails (paths, easements) within the county; help keep track of trail access and safety issues and develop reporting tools to identify the who/what/when/where and how for reporting trail safety issues.

ETA meets on the 3rd Monday of the month.

Susan Erika Harvey seharvey@sbcglobal.net





Equestrians at Marin Stables

MARIN COUNTY

Friends of Marin Stables (FOMS) Establish Non-Profit Corporation

'FOMS has made a lot of progress this year. A list of tasks accomplished included Board organization, negotiating lease with Marin Municipal Water District, drafting a Business Plan and developing a conservation plan to protect water quality. A public program, 'Healing With Horses' was created to help women dealing with cancer work to work 'with' horses to overcome fears...of horses... and of cancer.

Marin Stables is one of two surviving stables in Central Marin and is premier stable for trail access and natural horsemanship training. FOMS has received a \$5,000 matching grant and asks for donations to meet that challenge.'

-Caroline McFadden, P. O. Box 314, Fairfax, CA 94978

-KJRRisso@hotmail.com

Nicasio Equestrians Establish Trails Advocacy Group

20 equestrians - including trainers and property owners - met in early July to consider strategies to improve trail access in Nicasio, San Geronimo Valley and nearby ridge-lands. It is estimated that over 1,000 horses are stabled in this area - certainly one of the largest concentrations of horses in Marin County. The group hopes to provide problem-solving tools and provide a permanent contact for communicating with landowners, government agencies, and other organizations.

Draft Mission statement: 'Prevent trail and open space losses; secure safe connections between existing trails; secure & acquire new trails & open space; ensure ongoing safety of trails including road crossings; distribute information concerning current & potential conditions of trails; provide trail maintenance and a volunteer task force.

Marin County Supervisor Steve Kinsey attended the meeting and described various land protection projects being undertaken. Of foremost concern to the new group is equestrian and equine safety while riding on roadside trails and crossing Nicasio Valley Road. The group hopes to establish safe trail connections between Nicasio's equestrian facilities, ridgeline trails, Roy's' Redwoods and San Geronimo Valley.

For more info, please contact Linda Daphne Warkentin ldw52@earthlink.net -July 2005

GGNRA Planning for Equestrian Lands in Marin's Golden Gate National Recreation Area:

For more about the GGNRA's Equestrian Lands Plan (Miwok Stables, Golden Gate Dairy Stables, Presidio Riding Club) contact NPS for information about the schedule and process - anticipated as a three year project.

-Andrea Lucas, GGNRA Planning Division: 415-561-4975

'According to an analysis by the Trust For Public Land, since 1999 voters have committed to raised \$22.9 billion for open space protection through 643 local measures.'

- www.tpl.org

Resources for Equestrians

Horse Keeping: A Guide to Land Management for Clean Water

Published by the San Francisco Bay Resource Conservation and Development Council.

Extensive studies and advice for equestrians, landowners and agencies.

Developed in partnership with the USDA and the Natural Resources and Conservation Service.

Available in PDF or hardcopy from the Council of Bay Area Conservation Districts. 707-794-1242x12

Or download PDF from

<http://bayareabarnsandtrails.org/strat.html>

Bay Area Equestrian Network

Debbie Smith's outstanding website continues to provide equestrians with up-to-date information, news, and listings about activities, programs and businesses in the Bay Area and around the State.

www.bayquest.com

Horsin' Around! Calendar

Marilyn Terstegge's free e-mail calendar provides the Bay Area equestrian community with information about area clubs and organizations and their activities. Join a club, find an event or activity, maybe try a new equestrian sport, and at the same time, meet and support your fellow horsemen and women.

horsinaround@horseNpony.com



Thank you, William Penn Mott...for saving parklands in the East Bay Hills'

Equestrian Donations Help Acquire and Care for Lands and Trails

Martinez Horsemen's fundraisers - with matching grants from the Bay Area Barns and Trails Trust - have earned over \$20,000 for the Muir Heritage Land Trust. The Muir Heritage Land Trust (MHLT) works with private landowners as well as East Bay Regional Parks District, Contra Costa County, the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council, and other agencies and nonprofits to preserve open space and agricultural lands in Contra Costa County.

- Muir Heritage Land Trust
www.muirheritagelandtrust.org

- Martinez Horsemen's Association
bookibug@comcast.net

San Ramon Valley Horsemen's Association donated \$500. to 'Save Mount Diablo' SRVHA approved a \$ 500. donation from funds raised during their 2004 'Trail Trials' event. Save Mount Diablo recently obtained an option to buy the 207 acre Mangini Ranch which will nearly complete the first trail connecting Concord to Mt. Diablo...a key link in the California Riding and Hiking Trail.

-San Ramon Valley Horsemen
www.savemountdiablo.org

Annual 5-Day 100 Mile East Bay Hills Trail Ride Earned \$14,000 to Benefit the Bay Area Ridge Trail The Tilden Wildcat Horsemen's Association and the Metropolitan Horsemen's Association voted to donate \$9,000 of this year's ride proceeds to the Bay Area Ridge Trail. Combined with a \$5,000 matching grant from Bay Area Barns and Trails, the total raised this year is \$14,000. Funds are restricted for use in planning, developing, and maintaining sections of the Ridge Trail in the East Bay. The 2004 5-Day Ride raised \$20,000!

Total over 3 years: \$37,000 for the Bay Area Ridge Trail!

-morrisolder@earthlink.net
www.ridgetrail.org

continued on page 5 >>

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

San Francisco's Golden Gate Park Stables Planning Process (STILL) Delayed

'Equestrians hoping to saddle up at Golden Gate Park can stop holding their breath. The city has to clear some bureaucratic hurdles before deciding the fate of the parks' stables, which have been closed since 2001. Chronicle-Watch began reporting on the stables in February, after tipsters complained about slow progress despite promises

from the parks department to get them reopened quickly. Former parks spokeswoman Becky Ballinger had told us that an environmental impact review to evaluate the necessary repairs and safety upgrades was in progress. But last week, parks spokeswoman Rose Marie Dennis said that the review hasn't actually begun...'

To receive updates about Golden Gate Park Stables, contact Tom.hart@sfgov.org or phone 415-831-2700.

San Francisco Horsemen's Association (SFHA) Working with Recreation and Park District to Reopen Golden Park Stables "During their July 7, 2005 meeting of SFHA President Bertille Legrand read a letter from Tom Hart, Property Manager, City and County of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department. The letter addressed planning for Golden Gate Park Stables and the following excerpts are taken from that letter. For the complete letter, visit

"As you are all aware, the Recreation and Park Department was forced to close the public riding stables in Golden Gate Park in September, 2001. The managers that held the lease dissolved their business operations and the City was left with the daunting task of repairing and upgrading the facility prior to being able to reopen... 'Then-Supervisor Tony Hall enthusiastically formed a Task Force through the Rules Committee of the Board of Supervisors to assist our Department in developing an overall plan for the future of the Stables...a plan was developed and presented to the Recreation and Park Commission for approval that was granted ...'However, due to the fact the Golden Gate Park is being nominated as a National Historic District and that the Stables complex is of historic importance to both the Stables and to the Polo Fields, our Department is required to undergo an Environmental Impact Review as the plan for renovation consists of the removal of certain structures...there are 18 projects ahead of the Stables in the queue...The individuals involved at this stage of this project are committed to seeing it through and truly believe the importance of not only saving Stables in Golden Gate Park, but the historic use of horses as well..."

-San Francisco Horsemen's Association www.sfhorsemen.org



When will horses return to Golden Gate Park Stables?

KUDOS to SFHA for sponsoring the first horseshow in almost 40 years at the Golden Gate Park's Bercut Equestrian Field! The SFHA Color Guard and the Cow Palace Cow girls performed for the crowd. Earlier, in August, Summertime 'Kid's Day in Golden Gate Park' brought the Park's Bercut Equestrian Field to life as Carriage Driver Kimberly Fishman and Petey took families for a spin.



photo by Phillip Lim

SAN MATEO COUNTY

Bear Creek Stables on Mid-Pen Open Space near Los Gatos Seeks Community Support

Bear Creek Stables has been a family run 72-horse stable for over 100 years. The MidPeninsula Open Space District purchased the Sierra Azul/ Bear Creek Redwoods and has been working on its Master Plan for the entire property which includes the stables and several miles of horse trails. MidPeninsula Open Space Directors have visited the stables and seem interested in supporting an environmentally friendly ranch that serves the community.

'Friends of Bear Creek Stables' was formed to help Glenda Smith, the ranch manager, to work on a business proposal that formalizes existing programs and outlines how the surrounding community benefits from having Bear Creek Stables on open space property and also how the ranch is a good steward of the land.

'Friends' invites representatives from community organizations to tour the facility, including ETRAC members, the Conservation Coordinator for the Loma Prieta Sierra Club and local preschool groups.

Soil erosion and water quality continue to be a primary concern at the public workshops that the MidPen staff has held. Glenda Smith (the ranch mgr), Erfert Fenton (the assistant mgr), and Jenny Whitman completed a class on livestock management during the summer. Glenda has implemented many of the concepts that were taught in the class. Bob Rohde, from the Natural Resource Conservation Service of Santa Cruz County, visited the stables last fall and was quite impressed with our progress. We continue to regularly test water samples from the creek that runs near the stable.

If you'd like to be included on the 'Friends of Bear Creek Stables' mailing list, please email:

Jenny Whitman jennywhitman@cablerocket.com

Friendsofbcstables@sbcglobal.net

Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) acquires Rancho Corral de Tierra

'Rich Allen rode his horse up a trail above the San Mateo County coast Wednesday and watched as a coyote trotted 100 yards away and a red-tailed hawk swirled overhead. He was thrilled that Congress voted unanimously the day before to add nearly 5,000 acres surrounding his Moss Beach Ranch horse-riding operation to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. He and others hope the public will be able to hike, ride horses and perhaps bicycle there in a few years, while enjoying some of the Bay Area's most sweeping vistas...About 6 miles north of Half Moon Bay, the property, known as the Rancho Corral de Tierra, is virtually undeveloped and seems far from the bustle of urban life. Allen leases 100 acres from the Peninsula Open Space Trust, which reached an agreement in 2001 to buy the 4,262-acre Rancho Corral de Tierra for \$29.75 million from San Francisco investors who had proposed building housing and a golf course on the land, said Paul Ringgold, director of stewardship for the trust.

The Rancho is the largest parcel of the nearly 5,000 acres to be added to the park. President Bush is expected to approve the expansion of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to include the land, but Congress must appropriate \$15 million to buy it from the trust, a process that could take several years, said land trust president Audrey Rust. Congress' vote this week was a major hurdle.

As a result, the National Park Service plans to start taking public input in the first six months of next year about potential uses for the property, said Chris Powell, a spokeswoman for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Rust said Wednesday she hoped that park officials would be willing to work out a management agreement with her organization to allow public access within a couple of years, before a formal transfer of ownership occurs. "It's really my goal to get this property open as soon as

Sonoma County Equestrians Contributed \$3,220 to Sonoma County Agriculture and Open Space District The Bay Area Barns and Trails Trust donated \$ 1,610 towards the 'Tolay Lake Park Fund' to match the \$1,610 raised by equestrians to assist the Sonoma County Agriculture and Open Space District pay for \$11.7 million for Petaluma's Cardoza Ranch that includes the future home of Tolay Lake Park which will be available for equestrian trail rides. Tolay will be the second largest in the county park system behind the 1,753-acre Hood Mountain Regional Park. Equestrian Dagmar Hoheneck solicited donations from the Sonoma County Horse Council, Novato Horsemen, Petaluma Riding & Driving Club, Nancy Chien Erickson and Stewart Greenberg and the Bay Area Barns and Trails Trust. The remaining \$6.3 million came from state, federal and private sources...a total of \$18 million. The county park system has \$1.2 million earmarked to build trails and develop the property into a park.

To contribute to the Tolay Lake Park Fund:

-Dagmar Hoheneck: 'Friends of Tolay', P. O. Box 4928, Petaluma, CA 94955

FOLGER ESTATE STABLE PROJECT
The Folger Estate Stable Project is a program of the Friends of Huddart and Wunderlich Park. In collaboration with San Mateo County, the Folger Stable Committee is working to insure the continuation of public horse boarding and the implementation of educational programs for children and architectural and history tours for adults.
www.folgerstable.org

NEW MAP AVAILABLE: TRAILS OF THE COASTSIDE & NORTHERN PENINSULA
San Bruno Mountain, Milagra & Sweeney Ridges, Montara Mountain and Beaches from San Francisco to Half Moon Bay. Detailed map is a guide to 75 miles of trails and 11,000 acres of public lands. Equestrian trails are clearly marked.
Available from Pease Press
www.peasepress.com
benpease@mindspring.com



2005 Bay Area Barns and Trails Grants

Marin County Open Space District: \$5,000

To assist with trail reroute & construction of Bay Area Ridge Trail on White Hill Open Space Preserve and Loma Alta Open Space Preserve

Bay Area Ridge Trail Council: \$5,000

To support Tilden/Wildcat Horsemen/Metropolitan Horsemen 5-Day Ride: For East Bay Regional Parks/Bay Area Ridge Trail maintenance.

Bonnie Davis with Dominican University and National Park Service: \$1,000

To help defray Bonnie's out-of-pocket expenses: 'Plant Growth and Potential Spread of Noxious Weeds from Horse Manure'

Research intended to determine the role of horse manure on the spread of noxious/invasive weeds.'

Ocean Riders of Marin/Golden Gate Dairy Stables: \$2,500

Assist with purchase of tractor to facilitate manure recycling partnership with Green Gulch Organic Farm.

Sonoma County Regional Parks Foundation: \$1,600

To match \$1,610. contributed by Sonoma County equestrians for acquisition of Tolay Lake Regional Park which will become the second largest park in the county system.

Sonoma Horse Council: \$2,500

For reconstruction of Equestrian Parking Facility adjacent to Bodega Dunes State Park and to facilitate equestrian access to over 1,000 acres of scenic parkland and 15 miles of trails.

List of the \$81,119 in Education, Preservation, Stewardship and Capacity Building Grants 2000 thru 2005: www.barnsandtrails.org

possible," she said. "The hiking is superb. If you go all the way to the top, it really takes your breath away. You feel like a hawk or an eagle. You feel like you're up there soaring."

'...Ringgold, of the land trust, estimated there were at least 25 miles of roads and trails, some older and less maintained than others. The landscape harbors numerous rare and endangered animal and plant species.

Because of the ocean influence and rapid elevation change, Ringgold said, Montara Mountain is home to two plants that exist nowhere else: the Montara manzanita and the Montara bush lupine.

The trust now leases portions of the Rancho Corral de Tierra to four horse-riding businesses, including Allen's, and leases about 250 acres to two farmers.

Officials at the federal recreation area have long wanted to acquire the property, but details of a large-scale sale have been difficult to work out, Ringgold said. Ultimately, the trust elected to hold onto the farmland in order to preserve the agricultural operations, he said.

Congress' decision to accept the property for national park purposes comes at an opportune time, Powell said, because the Golden Gate National Recreation Area is embarking on a four-year process of updating its 25-year-old management plan. The park now covers 75,398 acres, extending north of the Golden Gate Bridge to Tomales Bay in Marin County and south to San Mateo County, and encompassing 59 miles of bay and ocean shoreline.

Carl Hoffman, who runs the Ocean View Farms stables in Montara and the Ember Ridge stables in Moss Beach, said he was confident that horses would be part of the picture. Hoffman, 63, grew up in the area and is glad the views of Montara Mountain that he has known all his life will remain undisturbed.

"I think all the citizens and people of the state that will benefit from it," he said. Allen agreed.'

The above article includes excerpts from: "Park corrals a rancho; Huge addition to GGNRA virtually undeveloped"

Peninsula Open Space Trust www.openspacetrust.org

San Francisco Chronicle: Patrick Hoge, Chronicle Staff Writer -December 8, 2005:

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Supporters of Westwind Community Barn The second annual May 7th Kentucky Derby Day Fundraiser at Maple Leaf Farm was held at the private barn of Alex and Cathy Mendez in Los Altos Hills. The guests enjoyed a jumping demonstration, followed by a traditional Derby lunch and a live auction. Proceeds benefit Westwind Community Barn on Altamont Road in Los Altos Hills. The Barn is in a spectacularly beautiful setting next to the 55-acre Byrne Preserve, donated by Dr. Paul Byrne as open space.

Supporters of Westwind Community Barn is a non-profit 501(c) (3) public foundation created in 2003. The group's mission is restoration of the Barn, creation of a permanent community space at the Barn for arts and environmental programs for the community, and preservation of the site's natural environment. Supporters recently donated eight new exterior doors to the Barn.

Join us next year on May 6, 2006 for Kentucky Derby Day at Maple Leaf Farm.

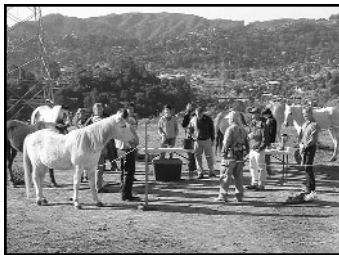
Supporters of Westwind Community Barn www.westwindbarn.com
Mary Pat Gaspich mgaspich@yahoo.com

Friends of the San Jose Mounted Unit [FSJMU]: Citizens Form Patrol Support Organization "The San Jose Police Department has some new friends who take their mission seriously enough to form a corporation, elect officers, file for non-profit status, and forge ahead with fund-raising campaigns. Looking at successes in New York, Canada, and other large metropolitan cities, the SJPD Mounted Unit could be critical to future downtown policing strategies ~especially where riots and protests are involved. The seven existing officer/horse teams work hard ~with limited resources~ to keep up with the current schedule, including appearances at downtown's Christmas in the Park...But the money won't be used for new patrol cars, nor will it go toward high-tech radar guns and lasers anytime soon. In fact, most of the patrol, traffic, and beat officers will be on their own this time around, as Friends of the San Jose Mounted Unit [FSJMU] sets its sights instead on a small group of 1,000- to 2,000-pound 'gentle giants' that cannot speak for themselves, yet have a natural way of drawing police officers and the public together for casual conversation. "This has been a long time coming," exclaims Dando. 'I consider the mounted unit ambassadors to the city of San Jose. They very often appear at all kinds of events, from park openings to supporting the domestic violence walk each fall. They are involved in other community activities throughout the year. It's also important to remember that these officers on horses are very often the first introduction of police officers to the community, from the little toddler to the burly strong man or a little old lady. When a police officer is on a horse, it sets a whole new tone for what police officers do for our community. Although not on the SJPD payroll, Maggie Kelly loves being a surrogate mother for the department's horses.

'Whenever a group takes the initiative and gets involved, we're very appreciative,' adds Police Chief Rob Davis. 'We applaud their efforts and we support their work ethic to see how they can be of assistance.'

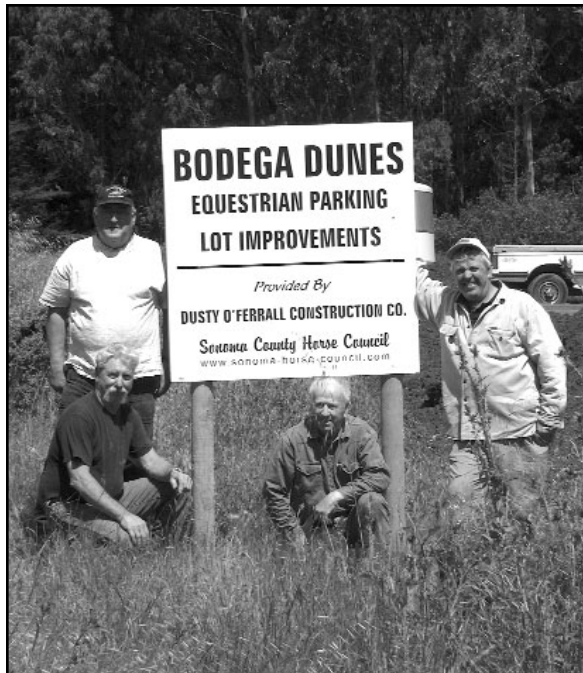
With retired mounted unit officer John Campbell as vice president and Maggie Kelly, a fierce citizen volunteer on board, the team says the response has been positive...'

Friends of the San Jose Mounted Unit, P. O. Box 6511, San Jose, CA 95150-6511



▲ 'Broom busting' work party on Mill Valley's 'Horse Hill Open Space Preserve' demonstrates that volunteers support their 'landlord', the Marin County Open Space District.'

► Sonoma Horse Council members reconstruct Equestrian Parking Facility adjacent to Bodega Dune State Park - the third most popular trail riding area of Sonoma County.



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

SOLANO COUNTY

BABTT working with Bay Area Land Trusts to Obtain 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 various insurance companies to resolve the problem. www.solanolandtrust.org/



BAY AREA BARNS & TRAILS TRUST

EDUCATION • STEWARDSHIP • PRESERVATION

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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

“Bay Area Barns and Trails is at the fore-
front of an important local and national
issue: preserving land for equestrian uses
and promoting in this contemporary era
the values and spirit of the rural life.

The collaborative nature of the projects
you have been funding, the requirement
for public access, the improvements to the
environment are all part of that rural
heritage and will always have relevance to
our society. Your grants enable us to put
these values into practice.”

-Elaine Nelson, Friends of Westwind Community Barn

DIRECTORS AND ADVISORS

Deb Adair, San Jose | **Alistair Bleifuss**,
Bodega | **Nancy Couperus**, Los Altos Hills
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Zealand! | **Karen Johnson**, San Francisco
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Orinda | **Barbara Weitz**, Mill Valley

BAY AREA BARNS & TRAILS TRUST

HELPING SAVE LANDS AND TRAILS FOR HORSES IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Individual/Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Affiliate | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Stewardship Advocate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Trail Partner | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 Barn Raiser! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal | <input type="checkbox"/> Gift Membership |

Please make check payable to **Bay Area Barns & Trails** (sorry, no credit cards)

Total Amount \$ _____ Check # _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(s) _____ FAX # _____ e-mail _____

Name of Gift Recipient _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

All donations are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.
IRS Letter of Determination Available upon Request: EIN # 68-0442986

THANK YOU!