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September 2026 Edition

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The New Horseman

PROVIDING EQUESTRIANS WITH QUALITY, FAMILY-ORIENTED AMATEUR EVENTS, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR ALL EQUINE BREEDS AND DISCIPLINES.

A publication of the California State Horsemen's Association Inc.

September 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello to our amazing membership! The year is certainly rolling along, and we are just over 7 weeks away from our annual convention. I am looking forward to our Convention in Redding, catching up with the Members and collaborating to continue to move CSHA forward.

One of the items members requested in our listening sessions was better communication.

I am pleased to report that we have launched our email service with Constant Contact to improve delivery of our messages and newsletters. We know that some of our emails are going to spam folders; I hope as we move forward that number will drop. If your CSHA colleagues report that they haven't seen the newsletter or didn't get certain updates, please suggest they check their spam folders.



Laura Shultz Photo by Ashley Kelly

We all should be extremely grateful to our PR/social media whiz Ashley for taking the time to upload all our email addresses. I know I am. Thank you, Ashley!

Our new email service not only facilitates newsletter distribution, but it also creates a variety of other opportunities for improving communication within our association. I'm sure as we move forward we will find many such uses. The Annual Convention will be a great place to share ideas to help CSHA grow and support the unique programs we offer.

Once again, thank you for being a CSHA member. Please know I am always eager to hear your suggestions for how we can improve. In the meantime, happy trails!

Laura

For centuries, humans have said to horses, 'You do what I tell you or I'll hurt you.' Humans still say that to each other -- still threaten, force and intimidate. I'm convinced that my discoveries with horses have value in the workplace, in the educational and penal systems, and in the raising of children. At heart, I'm saying that no one else has the right to say 'you must' to an animal -- or to another human.

Monty Roberts

“Listen Before Asking”: Remembering the Life of Monty Roberts



On July 31, pioneering natural horseman, author, and cowboy Monty Roberts passed away at his home in Solvang, California, due to complications from an autoimmune disease. He was 91 years old. Born in 1935 in Salinas, California, Roberts' father was a horse trainer and his mother taught riding lessons.

After learning to ride and rope by the age of four, Roberts went on to double as a child rider in Hollywood films for actors including Mickey Rooney and Elizabeth Taylor in *National Velvet*. Though he won numerous rodeo championships as a child, and later as a member of the California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo college rodeo team, Roberts had early doubts about the harsh, sometimes violent methods employed by his trainer-father and his contemporaries while breaking horses.

At the age of seven, according to his autobiography, *The Man Who Listens to Horses*, Roberts attempted to show his father the work he'd done starting a young horse with gentler methods. In response, his father beat him with a chain so badly he needed to be hospitalized, telling him, "What the hell am I raising here?"

A good trainer can hear a horse speak to him. A great trainer can hear him whisper.
Monty Roberts

Undeterred, Roberts was sent to Nevada at age 13, where he had the opportunity to observe wild horses during a round-up for the Salinas Rodeo Association's Wild Horse Race. By studying the horses' body language while interacting with one another—how they turned their bodies and heads, for example; or how they moved their mouths and flicked their ears to show relaxation, annoyance, fear, or affection—Roberts began laying the groundwork for his own join-up methodology and a career that would span eight decades.

This week, Roberts' daughter Debbie Roberts Loucks announced her father's passing on Instagram, writing: "He dedicated his life to changing the way people understand and work with horses. His mission reached far beyond horsemanship. He believed that true leadership is built on communication, patience, empathy, and respect; lessons that have touched the lives of countless people around the world."

One of those people, of course, was none other than Queen Elizabeth II, who in the late 1980s stumbled across a racing magazine feature about a California cowboy who used kinder, gentler methods to break horses. She decided to seek the horseman out, and a connection was eventually made through Roberts' neighbor, John Bowles, in Santa Barbara.

"[Bowles played] jokes on people all the time," Roberts recalled to Horse Network in 2022. "He called me on the phone and he said, 'Morning, [Sir John Millar] is here, and [we] want to talk to you because the Queen would like to see your work.'

"I said, 'Well, John, I'm easy to find,'" the laconic Roberts, said, noting that he lived just six miles down the road. "[Later], I went to the guest room window, and watched a limousine Mercedes show up in the front door. John [Bowles] is 6'6", and he got out the [one] side, and this little guy [Sir John Millar], 5'3", got out on the [other] side, with a tweed suit, and a white mustache, and a hat that was from England.

"[I thought], He went right to central casting and got this guy!"

Determined to play it straight, Roberts gave the men a tour of his Santa Ynez Valley farm. Then, he introduced Sir John Millar to his system.

After watching a few previously untrained thoroughbreds have big breakthroughs with Roberts in real-time, Millar had seen enough. He informed the two men that the Queen would want to see all this for herself, and a date was set for Roberts to visit the U.K. in April of the following year.

As the story goes, upon his arrival at Windsor Castle, Roberts found more than 20 untrained horses belonging to the Queen Mother awaiting him in the fields outside the castle. When the training sessions began two days later, the soundproof glass gallery in the royal riding hall prevented Roberts from hearing what was being said throughout his session—although he knew the Royals were watching.

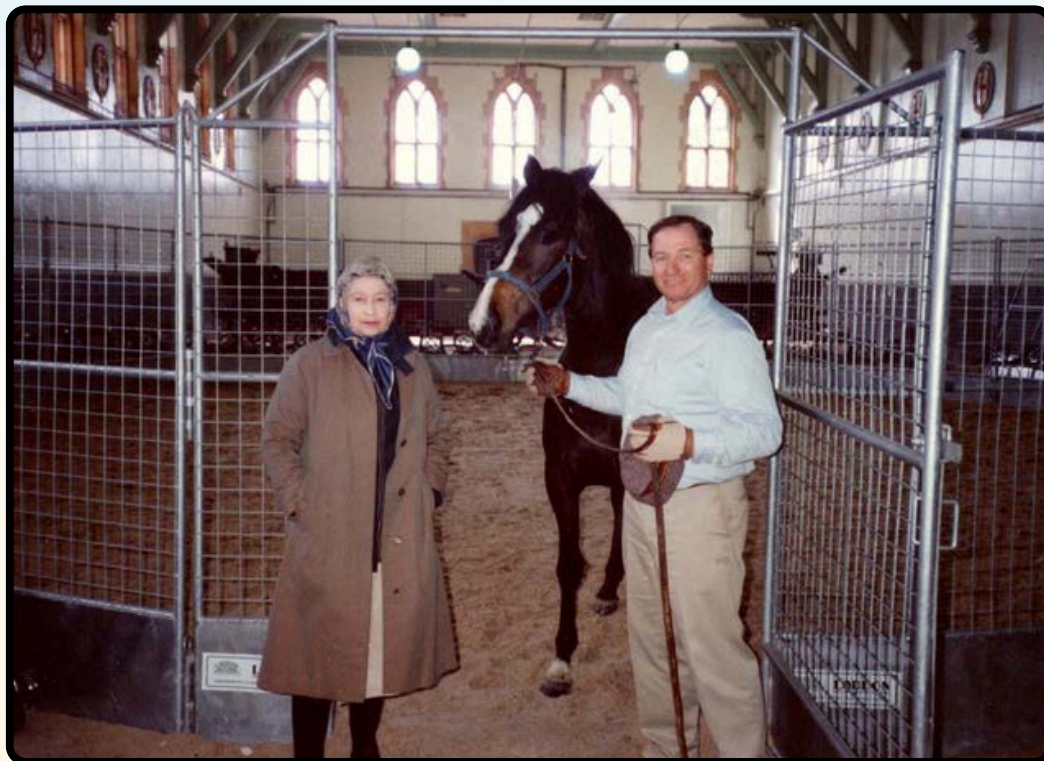
When the day ended, the Queen Mother came down from the gallery. "The tears were streaming down her face, and she said, 'That's the most beautiful thing I've ever seen,'" Roberts recounted.

Queen Elizabeth II was equally impressed, arranging a tour for the cowboy on a month-long journey around the U.K., where Roberts was introduced to nearly 100 horses that needed backing and training. "[The Queen] didn't know my concepts, so that was a surprise to her. But she traveled through the younger part of her life believing that violence was not the answer to training horses," Roberts explained.

"She was so pleased to find that [non-violence] was also the answer [to my methods], as opposed to just being a good thing to do."

Eventually, Queen Elizabeth II requested—or rather, according to Roberts, commanded—that he write a book detailing his methods, released in 1997 as, *The Man Who Listens to Horses*. Their friendship continued for many years after through more than 200 phone calls and numerous visits across the pond.

It is not good enough to get your horse to do what you want. It is far better to cause your horse to want to do it.
Monty Roberts



Queen Elizabeth II with Monty Roberts. © Christopher Dydyck/MontyRoberts.com

The Queen's confidence in Roberts inspired him to travel the world, sharing his work, backing, and training 'problem' horses. Among them was the famous racehorse, Lomitas, owned by the Jacobs family of Gestüt Fährhof stud racing farm in Germany, who had been all but banned from the track due to dangerous antics.

With Roberts' retraining, Lomitas went on to win Horse of the Year, and later sired three generations of offspring that, according to Roberts, earned more than \$50 million in winnings.

Roberts also worked with polo legend Adolfo Cambiaso, helping to revolutionize how polo ponies in Argentina were backed and trained. Prior to his work with Cambiaso, Roberts said, the sport had staggeringly high fatality rates among ponies in the early phase of their careers.

For the majority of his life, Roberts was on the road as many as 300 days a year, crisscrossing North America and beyond to put on clinics and live demonstrations. He continued to train and share his methodology well into his 80s.

Roberts was predeceased by his favorite horse, the American mustang Shy Boy, who died in March at the age of 33.

"While our hearts are broken, we also find comfort in knowing that [my father's] legacy lives on," Robert Loucks wrote in her tribute. "[Every] time someone chooses compassion over force, listens before asking, and seeks a better partnership with their horse."

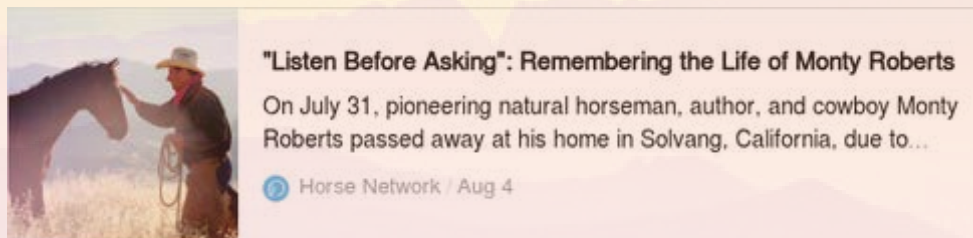
If you act like you've only got fifteen minutes, it'll take all day. Act like you've got all day and it'll take fifteen minutes.
Monty Roberts



About the Author

Nina Fedrizzi is an equestrian, travel, and lifestyle writer based in Upstate New York. When she's not tapping away on her MacBook, Nina can usually be found on a horse, sleuthing out the best local pho, or refusing to unpack her carry-on. Watch her do all three on Instagram @ninafedrizzi.

CSHA Newsletter gratefully thanks Horse Network and Nina Fedrizzi for permission to reprint this article. Readers are invited to click the link below to visit Horse Network and browse the rich and useful content.



The Duchess of Cornwall,
Queen Elizabeth II and
Monty Roberts

A boy is a long time before he knows his alphabet, longer before he has learned to spell, and perhaps several years before he can read distinctly; and yet there are some people who, as soon as they get on a horse, entirely undressed and untaught, fancy that by beating and spurring they will make him a dressed horse in one morning only. I would fain ask such stupid people whether by beating a boy they would teach him to read without first showing him the alphabet? Sure, they would beat him to death, before they would make him read.

Monty Roberts

Heads up!

News briefs from CSHA

Care about the wild horses? Check out H.R. 4356 for details including use of aircraft for roundups and directing more humane treatment from BLM. Then read below for what YOU can do. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/4356/text>



To get your federal congressperson to vote for a specific bill like H.R. 4356 (the Wild Horse and Burro Protection Act of 2025), you need to contact them directly as a constituent.

Follow these steps to effectively advocate for the bill:

1. Confirm Your Representative & the Bill's Status

Because "4356" is currently an active federal House bill (H.R. 4356), you will want to contact your U.S. Representative. Find your representative: Go to the official House of Representatives Directory and enter your ZIP code to find out who represents your district.

Check their stance: Look up the bill on Congress.gov to view the current list of cosponsors. If your representative is already a cosponsor, your message should change from a "please support" to a "thank you for supporting" note.

2. Make a Phone Call (Most Effective)

Calling a lawmaker's office is one of the fastest and most impactful ways to get your opinion logged. A staffer or voicemail will take down your message.

The Script: Keep it short, polite, and specific.

Example: "Hello, my name is [Your Name], and I am a constituent living in [Your Town/ZIP Code]. I am calling to ask Representative [Name] to support and vote YES on H.R. 4356, the Wild Horse and Burro Protection Act. This issue matters deeply to me because [insert a brief 1-2 sentence personal reason or story if you have one]. Thank you for your time."

3. Send a Written Message

If you prefer writing, you can use the direct contact forms provided on your representative's official website. Avoid mass-generated email forms, as congressional offices filter those out. Copy the script above into their official website contact box, changing "I am calling" to "I am writing."

4. Mobilize Others

A single constituent call can make an impact, but multiple calls on the same issue get a lawmaker's attention. Share the bill information and your representative's contact number with friends, family, or local community groups in your district to encourage them to make a call as well.

The number one worst piece of horsemanship on earth is violence.
Monty Roberts

Heads up!

Mark your calendar!

- **NOVEMBER 5 TO 8, CSHA ANNUAL CONVENTION IN REDDING.**



The Sundial Bridge in Redding, CA | Photo Credit: Nolan Erickson



CSHA NEWS: JUDGES



Alice Lawellin

Photo by Ashley Kelly

The judges commission is **still** actively looking for people who wish to become a CSHA judge in any of our disciplines. To learn more, call Alice (209) 629-7244 or (209) 858-2638 and start exploring the possibilities.



Dolly Forever (left) and **What Would Dolly Do** (right) boot socks from <https://dreamersnschemers.com/collections/dolly-collection> and also on www.HorseNetwork.com

"Dolly brought out the best in us. Let's take a page from her book and give back! Take a little positivity with you in the saddle with this limited collection. All proceeds of these Dolly Socks will go to the Imagination Library"

When educating horses there is no greater maxim than slow is fast and fast is slow.

Monty Roberts

CSHA NEWS: GYMKHANA

COMING IN OCTOBER!

The Best of the Best Converge in Watsonville

In October the best horses and amateur riders from the north, south and central Areas of California make the trek to Watsonville for the CSHA Gymkhana State Championship Show (SCS). This competition showcases the CSHA *crème de le crème* in Gymkhana. The horses and their riders make the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds their home during the three days of intense competition.

The SCS is not an open show. Combinations must qualify by competing in the shows held in the Regions from January 1st to September 15th. During the regular season our Region Gymkhana Chairmen promote our program and this show by volunteering their time and dedication to their Region's program. Without these local competitions riders would not be able to qualify to compete at the SCS and the chance by named Division State Champion. Each Champion wins a custom fitted 7 Saddle, a buckle and a banner. Reserve Champions are awarded a buckle and custom breast collar. The top10 in each Division are awarded a custom buckle.

Special thanks to everyone who volunteers their time to cover the many duties this show requires. And of course, a VERY SPECIAL thank you to all of the competitors...without you there would be no show.



Horses react appropriately while waiting for the human to get it right.

Monty Roberts

CSHA NEWS: GYMKHANA

Gymkhana...It's More Than Just A Barrel Racing

CSHA
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP
SHOW
OCTOBER 8-11, 2026
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, WATSONVILLE, CA

SHOW PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY PACKAGES

All packages include coverage from Thursday- Saturday (9 events) with Free downloads of Grand Entry and Awards for all riders.*** All your images from all your events are full resolution photo/video files.*** Video files come in 2 formats: 4K landscape (horizontal), portrait (vertical), an edited social media file.
*** Personalized downloadable online gallery with full print rights.
***Multi- horse and family discount (\$15 off).

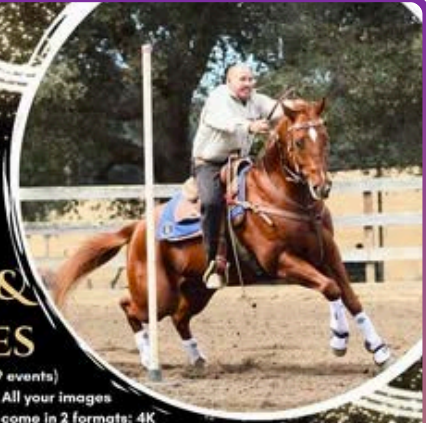
~CHOOSE YOUR PACKAGE~

PACKAGE #1 All images from all 9 events Photos only *\$100*	PACKAGE #2 All images from all 9 events Choose 3 events- video any arena, Photos of remaining 6 events *\$120*	PACKAGE #3 All images from 9 events Choose ANY combo of Video Or Photos, (up to 9 videos), either arena. *\$150*
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LEADLINE / GRADUATE
\$35
*Leadline free with regular rider package purchase

ADDITIONAL ADD ONS:
*Video of Memorial Barrel Race or Outlaw Race run
\$10 per run with package purchase
\$20 without.
*Mini Portrait Session w/horse (5 images) \$25
*Candida

FACEBOOK:
Becky Kolano Photography
Message on Facebook or Text
817-771-2684
Dally A Star
email: Dallyastarphotography@yahoo.com
Website: dallyastarphotography.smugmug.com



I cannot imagine my life without horses. They have been my teachers, my friends, my business partners and my entertainment.
Monty Roberts

CSHA NEWS: CHARITABLE TRUST

THE CALIFORNIA STATE HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE TRUST



**YOUTH RIDERS
NEED YOUR HELP**

Supporting the youth of CSHA is top priority for the CSHA Charitable Trust. The Trust depends on CSHA members to fund the various scholarships that CSHA promotes in many of our programs. As educational costs have increased, the Trust has worked with CSHA programs to raise the amounts of scholarships awarded in the past few years to keep them useful and beneficial. The result has seen more riders apply for, and use their scholarship awards. This also means that more money is going out and we need your support to continue to grow and help more of our young riders.

What is the Trust: The CSHA Charitable Trust was established in 1969 by the CSHA Board of Directors as a separate charitable tax-exempt entity to award and distribute scholarship funds. The Trust is comprised of three volunteer Trustees who oversee the funds.

The way the Trust works: The Trust is notified by CSHA State Chairs of riders that have met the requirements of the scholarship fund in their discipline. The Trust holds funds in that riders name until the rider needs them for their educational purposes. The Trust, when notified by the rider, verifies the request before sending the funds directly to the school in the riders name. The Trust funds are invested in the market to continually generate funds, but donations are needed to keep up with demand.

PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION USING THE FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE

On August 17, National Nonprofit Day (NND) recognizes the goals and positive impacts nonprofits have on communities and the world. Celebrate by supporting the non-profits of your choice!

CSHA NEWS: CHARITABLE TRUST

THE CALIFORNIA STATE HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE TRUST

DONATION FORM

CSHA Programs are encouraging young Californians to participate in equestrian activities throughout the State. The CSHA Charitable Trust promotes the health, welfare, happiness, development and education of young people in California who are interested in horse activities and for the purpose of promoting research and education regarding the health, development and general welfare of horses.

EMERGENCY EQUINE ASSISTANCE FUND	\$ _____
ENGLISH SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ _____
EQUINE MEDICAL RESEARCH FUND	\$ _____
GYMKHANA SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ _____
JR. HORSEMASTERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ _____
ROYALTY SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ _____
WESTERN SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ _____
TRAIL TRIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ _____
U.C. DAVIS VETERINARY SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ _____
APPLY TO EXISTING NEED (as determined by the Trust)	\$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

CALIFORNIA STATE HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE TRUST

MAIL TO:

CSHA CHARITABLE TRUST C/O JILL KRAUT
24163 SAINT MORITZ DR. VALENCIA CA 91355

PLEASE ENCLOSE THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK



CSHA Charitable Trust, 24163 SAINT MORITZ DR. VALENCIA CA 91355

Rev July 2026

CSHA NEWS: EQUESTRIAN EDUCATION, ADVOCACY & OUTREACH

Why do equestrians need to be advocates?

by Gina Cruz

“I just want to ride my horse.” “I just want to go to the horse show.” “Why do I have to go to a meeting?” How often do we here comments like this? As horse owners, we are all busy. Caring for horses, keeping them healthy and fit, takes a lot of time and effort, particularly for those of us who keep our horses at home, or run boarding and training facilities. There is never enough time in the day. How can we possibly have time to attend a meeting? If we don’t make the time, we risk losing the lifestyle with horses that we love

Most Californians are probably aware that horse shows and rodeos happen in our state. Are they aware that horses live in their communities? Probably not. The same applies to our elected officials. Many of them are not even aware that horses live in their districts, especially when they are new to office. It’s up to us, as horse owners, to make sure they know we’re here, and that we are an important constituency they need to represent.

Here are some of the issues we are facing that impact our future with horses here in California:

- Land Use Legislation - The California legislature has passed numerous housing bills aimed at addressing the housing crisis in the state. Unfortunately, this one size fits all approach is impacting our equestrian zoned properties with by-right approvals for ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units), lots splits, duplexes, multi-family zone changes near transit, and pushing horses out.
- E-bikes on Equestrian Trails - E-bike advocates are pushing for access to trails that are currently only for horses and hikers, and in some cases conventional mountain bikes. The speed of e-bikes poses a potential threat to the safety of horses and riders.
- Public fairgrounds eliminating equestrian uses - Facilities that accommodated horse boarding, horse shows, and emergency evacuation are eliminating the horse facilities. There is a shortage of affordable horse boarding in many areas; losing the public facilities makes access to horses less available. Fire season is only getting worse in California. It’s critical to have public facilities that can accommodate evacuated horses during an emergency.
- Public parks replacing equestrian facilities - The Griffith Park Pony Rides in Los Angeles was closed down due to protests by animal rights activists. Pickle ball courts are being proposed for part of an equestrian park in Thousand Oaks.

The bottom line, if we don’t fight for equestrian facilities, equestrian zoning, equestrian trails, we’re going to lose all of it. The next time you’re asked to attend a local meeting or write a letter to your elected officials, please take the time to show up for our community. We have to be our own advocates if we want to preserve this lifestyle with horses for our families and future generations in California.

If you’d like to get involved, join the new Education, Advocacy and Outreach committee. Contact Gina Cruz at advocacy.csha@gmail.com.

I had been riding horses before my memory kicked in, so my life with horses had no beginning. It simply appeared from the fog of infancy. I survived a difficult childhood by traveling on the backs of horses, and in adulthood the pattern didn't change.

Monty Roberts

CSHA NEWS: Obstacle Challenge

Obstacle Challenge events are just getting warmed up for the 2026 show year.

Running I Ranch in Dunnigan will be holding 3 shows in one weekend again in September. Our State Obstacle Challenge Championship show will once again be at Running I Ranch this year.

Check out the Obstacle Challenge Events page on the CSHA website for more information. Also follow us on Facebook: CSHA Obstacle Challenges.

Vicki Nims



The greatest strength a man can achieve is gentleness.
Monty Roberts

CSHA NEWS: PARADE



California State Horsemen's Association, Incorporated
1330 W. Robinhood Dr. Suite D, Stockton, CA 95207
Telephone (209) 227-7110 Fax: (888) 389-0359

Greetings Paraders;

September 2026

We selected Ripon to be our State Parade for 2026. Ripon will hold their parade on February 28, 2027. This will be a great kick off to start our 2027 season! Since the parade typically starts at 1pm, I will see if I can get a food truck there prior to the parade (post pre-judging) and hopefully have some sweets for us to eat while we are waiting for parade results.

We will be starting our fall parades now. September has Newman and Madera and October has West Point. We end our year in Columbia in December. (Columbia is one of my favorites!)

State Convention is coming in November on the 6th and 7th. This year it will be held in Northern California. I have only received one Parader's Grant Application, and the winner will be announced at Convention. I hope to see some of you at convention this year.

Happy Trails,

Charlie Alamo

Charlie Alamo



Email: csa@att.net

Website: www.californiastatehorsemen.org

2026 UPCOMING PARADES

SEPTEMBER 6th

Judge: Alice Lawellin

Newman Fall Festival Parade

Mr. Brandon Mello (209) 618-5720

P. O. Box 851 Newman CA 95360

parade@newmanfallfestival.org

SEPTEMBER 26th Judge: Alice Lawellin

95th Annual Madera Old Timers /
Downtown Merchants Assoc Parade

Mr. Nick Salavas (559) 474-9901

559agent@gmail.com

Chamber of Commerce:

120 North "F" St.

Madera CA 93638

OCTOBER 3rd

Judge Alice Lawellin

West Point Lumber Jack Parade

Mrs. Angel O'Mears (209) 419-
1232

P.O. Box 73 Wilseyville CA 95257

DECEMBER 13th

Judge: Alice Lawellin

Columbia Christmas Parade/Back
County Horseman

Ms. Barbara Savory and Ms. Deb
Lewis (209) 743-3580

11594 Campo Seco Rd Sonora CA
95370

DECEMBER 5th

Judge: Alice Lawellin

Manteca Holiday Parade

Manteca Chamber of Commencer c/o
Carol

629 East Yosemite Ave Manteca CA
95336 (209) 823-6121

www.manteca.org

*Always work to cause your horse to follow the path of least resistance.
Then place an opening for him to pass through so that the path of
least resistance becomes the direction you want him to go in.*

Monty Roberts

CSHA NEWS: PARADE

<u>CODE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PARADE</u>	<u>JUDGE</u>
B1	2/21	Ripon	Lawellin
C1	3/21	San Juan Capistrano (No CSHA)	North
D1	4/26	Winters (No CSHA)	Barnet
E1	5/2	Los Banos	Lawellin
E2	5/9	Chowchilla	Lawellin
E3	5/9	Dixon (No CSHA)	Barnett
E4	5/9	Sonora (No CSHA)	(CSHA judge was canceled)
E5	5/9	Castro Valley (No CSHA)	Webb
E6	5/23	Vacaville	Barnett
E7	5/30	Patterson	Lawellin
E8	5/23	Lakeport	Cipro
E9	5/24	Lower Lake	Cipro
F1	6/7	Sutter Creek	Lawellin
F2	6/13	Guernville (parade canceled)	Barnette
F3	6/13	Livermore	Webb
F4	6/20	Hollister	Lawellin
F5	6/20	Middletown	Cipro
G1	7/4	Manteca	Lawellin
G2	7/4	Clearlake	Cipro
G3	7/18	Salinas	Cipro
G4	7/19	Salinas	Cipro

JUNIOR HIGH POINT

NOVELTY MOUNTED GROUP

Quadrille Queens: B1-10, E2-10, F4-10=30

SENIOR HIGH POINT

SHERIFF'S POSSE SILVER MOUNTED

Merced: B1-10, E1-10, E2-10, E7-10, F4-10=50

SHERIFF'S POSSE WORKING

Alameda: B1-10, E6-10, E7-10, F3-10, G1-10=50

FANCY DRESSED WESTERN LADY

Candy Graham: E1-10, E2-10=20

NOVELTY COSTUME

Lonne Sloan: E8-10, E9-10, F5-10, G2-10=40

WORKING WESTERN

Linda Mancebo:

LADIES SIDESADDLE

Charlie Alamo: B1-10, E1-10, E2-10, F1-10, F3-10, F4-10=60

MULE CLASS

Carol Thorn: E9-10

IN HAND OPEN

JoAnne Hoefer: B1-10, E1-10, E2-10, F1-10, F4-10=50

PLAIN WESTERN

Debbie Marshall: E1-10, E2-10, E7-10, F1-10, F3-7, F4-7=54
Rosie Schering: E7-7, F1-7, F3-10, F4-10=34
Cathy Smith:

AUTHENTIC NOVELTY COSTUME

Gary Beck: E1-10, E2-10, E7-10, F4-10, G1-10, G3-10, G4-10=70

Charlie Alamo

CSHA NEWS: ROYALTY

The Royalty and Parade "Royal Ball" was a success on Friday, August 28th, as nearly 200 guests gathered at the Fusaro Hall at the Shasta District Fairgrounds to celebrate the organization's talented youth.

The evening highlighted the dedication of 19 competitors, who delivered 17 speeches throughout the event. In addition to honoring the hard-working parade team and distributing raffle prizes, the ceremony served as a special recognition for the newly crowned royalty. Each of the following titleholders was presented with custom saddle stands, breast collars, saddle pads, and a variety of other awards:

- * Senior Miss: Rylan Morris
- * Jr. Miss: Aurelia Johnson
- * Little Miss: Henley Thompson
- * Jr. Ambassador: Mason Rourke
- * Little Ambassador: Declan Miller

The event was honored by the presence of State President Laura Shultz, who made the drive to show her support and address the attendees. I'm am so thankful to have such an amazing president showing her support!!!

I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to my family and friends—including my Mom, my Dad, my boyfriend, best friend Mindy, Miss Jenna Joe, the Brewer and Thompson families, and many others—who worked tirelessly to manage the setup and cleanup for the evening. With such strong community support, the organization looks forward to an exciting and successful year ahead.

Much love

Your CSHA Region 18 Royalty & Parade Chair
Sabrina Cantu



*I want to leave the world a better place
for horses and people.
Monty Roberts*

CSHA NEWS: ROYALTY



TRAIL TRIALS - UPCOMING EVENTS



State Championship Event at Stone Cellar
September 19-20, 2026

You must qualify for SCE and receive an invitation to enter. Qualification: Be a member of CSHA, be a member of your Region's Trail Trials Program, complete three sanctioned trail trials in the same category, division and on the same horse, work a full day at a sanctioned trail trial. SCE is a two day, single event. You must compete both days.

SCE Benefit Raffle for a Portable Electric Corral

Trail Trials SCE Benefit Auction

Save the Date

2026 SCE Apparel order

Sponsorship Form

Directions to Stone Cellar

MVP Nomination Form

Qualified Rider List

SCE Chairman Contact:

Jenn Garcia (916) 996-1569

Trust is established by working around horses in an utterly predictable manner.

Monty Roberts

TRAIL TRIALS - UPCOMING EVENTS

Kerrick Corral Trail Trials
Pinecrest, CA

August 15-16-2026

4*S

Trail Length: Saturday 5-7 miles, Sunday 5-7 miles

of Obstacles: Saturday 10-12, Sunday 8-10

Senior Judge: Kelly York Saturday;
Charlotte Johnson Sunday

Contact:

Victor Pedroza 209 605-3905 [email](#)

Save the Date More Info Soon!

Aug 22, 2026

5*S

Trail Trial at Mt. Diablo

Trail Length: 4 hours

of Obstacles: 12

Senior Judge: Ellen Liebenberg

Contact:

Rene Turnbull
925 989-9299
[email](#)

Save the Date More Info Soon!

September 5-6, 2026

2*S

Trail Trials at Meadowbrook Ranch
Magalia, CA

Trail Length: Saturday 4-5 miles, Sunday 4-5 miles

of Obstacles: Saturday 9, Sunday 8

Senior Judge: Charlotte Johnson
Saturday; Cindi McElwain Sunday

Contact: Jeanne Bonomini
530 643-9440
Summer Campana 530
356-8504

When training young horses "There are many types of bits for many different disciplines, but the severity of ALL bits lies in the hands holding them."

Monty Roberts

REGION NEWS: Region 6



WANTED

All riders who want fun and friendly Play Day competition!
WIN A SILVER BUCKLE!

To be eligible to win a high point buckle, riders must have attended at least 2 of the last 4 SCCA Play Days for 2026.

THE SCCA ANNUAL

BUCKLE PLAY DAY

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

Santa Clara County Horsemen's Association
 20350 McKean Road San Jose

Sign ups 8:00 am. ----- Start 9:00 am.

Ribbons to 6th place

We will be running 7 events:
 Single Stake, Barrels, Big T, Speed Ball,
 Speed Barrels,
 Poles 1, Figure 8 Stake
 (events may be subject to change)

High point Buckles

MEMBERS: \$50 ALL EVENTS
DAY MEMBERS: \$75 ALL EVENTS

CONTACT YVONNE LEE 408-203-1795



★ 2026 ★
 HORSE HARMONY PRESENTS
3 DAY RANCH CAMP!
 Horsemanship/Ranch Riding and Trail/Obstacles
 Immersion camp

OCT. 2, 3, 4TH

LOCATION: BLUE BANNER STABLES
 11590 New Ave. Gilroy, CA.

★ ALL LEVELS WELCOME! ★

Come join the fun and immerse yourself and your horse in 3 full days of workshops in Natural Horsemanship, Horsemanship/Ranch Riding and Trail/Obstacles and Ranch Horse Show Events. Improve your horse partnership and learn the ins and out of ranch riding, trail and fun obstacles or hone your skills for competition!

FRIDAY
 9AM-4PM WORKSHOPS
 And more!
 5PM POTLUCK, ROPING LESSONS
 AND LINE DANCE LESSONS.

SATURDAY
 9AM-4PM WORKSHOPS
 And more!
 5PM BBQ, RAFFLE, SPEAKER,
 LINE DANCE LESSONS.

SUNDAY
 9AM-11AM WORKSHOP
 12:00-3PM RANCH HORSE SHOW EVENTS
 - LOW KEY AND HORSEMANSHIP FIRST!

REGISTRATION INCLUDES: 3 DAYS OF CAMP CLASSES, EVENT T-SHIRT, SATURDAY NIGHT BBQ, A RAFFLE TICKET, EVENING ACTIVITIES AND MORE!

For more info., and registration info.
 Contact Sandi Parker 408/842-1015 Text/Cat
 Email: Sandiparker@gmail.com

STALLS AVAILABLE, DRY CAMPING,
 HOTELS NEAR BY.
 CLASS SIZE LIMITED,
 SIGN UP EARLY!

ABOUT INSTRUCTOR: SANDI PARKER
 Sandi is a professional horsewoman with over 30 years experience in teaching and training horses. She has a passion for teaching and training horses. She has a passion for teaching and training horses. She has a passion for teaching and training horses.

Come for the learning, stay for the FUN!

Learn, Ride, Connect, Build a Partnership that Lasts.



Woodside Day of the Horse

★
 Progressive Trail Ride
 ★
 After Party

YEAR OF THE FIRE HORSE

RIDE BOLD. RIDE FORWARD. RIDE TOGETHER
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026

Register online by August 15 for Early Bird Discount - \$80
 Registration includes Lunch, Goody Bag & Day Stall Use (with reservation)

Costume Contest
 Individual & group categories

Group Challenge
 Bring your barn buddies. The groups with the most riders win big!

FREE Day Stall
 Your horse relaxes while you enjoy the free lunch, exhibitor area, demonstrations and costume awards

Register from 7/15/2026 WWW.WHOA94062.ORG/TRAIL-RIDE

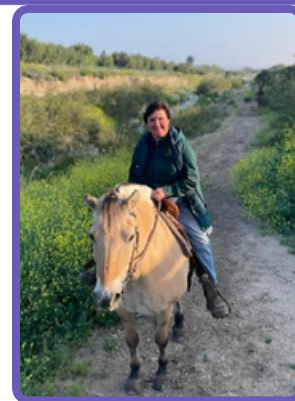
WHO! Woodside-area Horse Owners Association

THE WHOA FOUNDATION

The horses are talking ... just listen.
Monty Roberts

REGION NEWS: Region 7

Region 7 will be hosting a booth at the Day of the Horse Showdeo to sign up members and REACTIVATE VENTURA COUNTY REGION.



Lisa Baca

ETI CORRAL 37 PRESENTS...

★ DAY OF THE HORSE SHOWDEO ★

★★ SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 ★★
★ OPEN HOUSE 11:00AM–2:00PM | SHOW STARTS 12:30PM ★

CONEJO CREEK EQUESTRIAN PARK

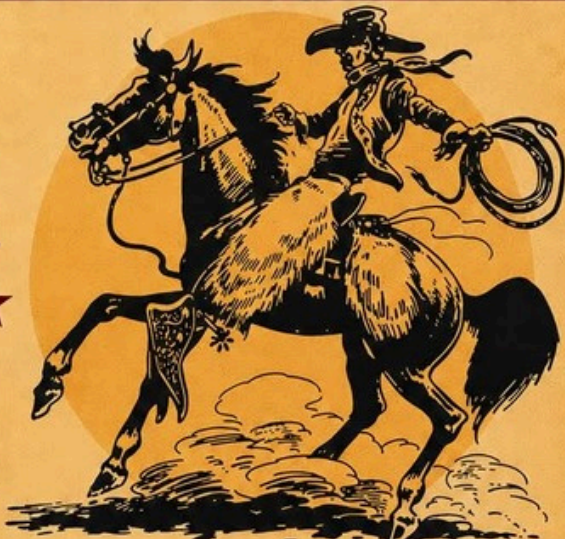
★ WE NEED YOU! ★
BE PART OF OUR BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR!

**BUSINESS VENDORS**
Promote your business, connect with the community, and be part of a fun-filled day!

**EDUCATIONAL VENDORS**
Share your knowledge, resources, and programs with our equestrian community!

**SPONSORS**
Increase your visibility and support a local event that brings our community together!

**SHOWDEO PARTICIPANTS**
Show off your skills and be part of an exciting day of Western fun!



SIGN UP TODAY!
We're looking for vendors and showdeo participants to make this event a success!

APPLY NOW: 

SPONSOR TODAY: 

 **LEARN MORE:** <https://eticorral37.org> **LOCATION:** 1350 E Avenida De Las Flores
Thousand Oaks, CA

The wonder of Independence is that it encourages open minds and the desire to improve.
Monty Roberts

REGION NEWS: Region 13

Western Versatility Challenge Blue Lake Arena

210 Chartin Rd. Blue Lake, Ca.

Sunday May 10th

July 19th

Sept. 20th

Sign up 9:00am. Ride 10:00am.

All breeds horses, donkeys, and mules WELCOME.

Walk Trot, Youth, Novice, Amateur and Open



Blue Lake Saddle Club

members \$30.00

Non members \$35.00

Cash or Check only

All competitions include:

Trail Obstacle course,
Reining Pattern, and
Rail

Attire requirements:

Boots, Helmet (required under 18) / cowboy hat, Long Sleeve Shirt

The next
winner
could be
you. Give
it a try!



Awards &
Prizes for 1st,
2nd, and 3rd.

Series Awards too!

Bring your own food and drinks



Questions?

Darcy Lima (707)-601-1302

**Mark your calendar for these special Region 13 events --- your hosts
include free camping and corrals to enhance your weekend
experience!**

*Everybody ought to be given a chance to do whatever they want,
but be responsible for their own actions.*

Monty Roberts

REGION NEWS: Region 19

From The Independent 9/18/2026

TWO MAINSTAYS OF THE SANTA BARBARA EQUINE COMMUNITY TRYING TO SURVIVE FINANCIALLY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

New Rental Proposal from Earl Warren Showgrounds to Equine Evac Leaves Members of Horse Community Outraged

By Elaine Sanders

Thu Sep 03, 2026 | 1:52pm



*Ronda Hathaway,
President, Region 19
SB Equine Evac President
Hathaway Ranch HK
805-452-9236*

The noisy air conditioning had to be shut off in Warren Hall for last Thursday's monthly board meeting. Five board members of the 19th District Agricultural Association, Earl Warren Showgrounds' CEO, and a lawyer representing the California Department of Food and Agriculture sat around a table in a huddle, while about 40 community members filed into the red upholstered chairs, public comment tickets in hand.

The topic of the hour was the new proposed rental agreement, listing a price of \$600 a month to be paid by nonprofit Santa Barbara Equine Assistance and Evacuation Team, aka Equine Evac, for the storage of a trailer and container full of emergency response equipment in the showgrounds parking lot.

"That \$600 a month would be devastating to our program," said Equine Evac's director Rhonda Hathaway.

This proposal came as a shock to Equine Evac, who had been storing its materials on the property for the past 35 years at no cost, and has worked in coordination with Earl Warren to provide essential large animal evacuation resources to thousands of southern Santa Barbara County animals through fire and flood.

As the air temperature started to rise in the hall, so too did the temperature of the comments from members of the equestrian community, including horse owners, trainers, veterinarians, and former firefighters.

The local horse community has been up in arms, with a petition garnering over 800 signatures, and the lengthy public comment period at the August 27 board meeting effectively delaying the board's decision on the matter.

A Community Event Center

Earl Warren Showgrounds is a nonprofit with property owned by the State of California and directed by the 19th District Agricultural Association, whose nine boardmembers are appointed by California's governor. Only four full-time employees, and about 15-20 temporary maintenance workers hired during busy seasons, keep the property up and running.

The multi-use, community facility receives zero taxpayer dollars and is “financially self-sustaining” and invests “100% of our donations and profits back into our Showgrounds,” according to the facility’s website.

The showgrounds used to receive state funding for operations and maintenance, but state budget cuts in the 1990s and again in the early 2010s left District Agricultural Associations (DAAs) like Earl Warren Showgrounds without their major funding streams and relying primarily on event revenue, property usage fees, and donations, including donations from Equine Evac. Struggling to keep up financially, the showgrounds had been operating at a deficit of over \$100,000, sparking false rumors of the showgrounds potentially closing in 2019.

“The staff really is to be commended,” said Earl Warren CEO Ben Sprague. “They’ve kept this place together with duct tape and baling wire for years.”

In 2019, Sprague was hired to run the showgrounds, and his number one task, assigned by the 19th District board, was to make the showgrounds financially viable. He said that for the last few years, Earl Warren’s finances have been net positive, and enough to keep the facility comfortable to pay for basic facility maintenance and protect pensions.

For the Horse Community

In the 1950s, Earl Warren Showgrounds was built to be the home for the Santa Barbara National Horse and Flower Show, with a commitment, in their previous mission statement, to “maintain[ing] a first-class equine facility.”

As of March 2023, the board amended the showground’s mission statement, and now it no longer includes a commitment to equestrian events. The current mission statement reads as follows: “The Earl Warren Showgrounds is a multi-use community event and emergency resiliency center serving the existing and changing needs of Santa Barbara’s culture, history, and community.”

This change, coupled with a new Earl Warren Master Plan that proposed to drastically reduce the amount of horse facilities on the property — including removing eight of the eleven barns used for housing horses and other large animals during shows and emergency evacuations — has left some in Santa Barbara’s horse community with major distrust in the current Earl Warren management.

“I understand that Earl Warren needs to be financially sustainable and accommodate a variety of community events,” said Jen Boulden. “But I respectfully ask that this be accomplished without sacrificing the equestrian and agricultural foundations of the showgrounds.”

Equine Evac was founded after the 1990 Paint Fire, which claimed the lives of tens of horses living on ranches in the Santa Ynez Mountains whose owners were not able to save them from the fast-moving flames. The nonprofit, volunteer-run organization is funded by donations and maintains equipment and a crew of trained and registered Disaster Service Workers, ready to be engaged in an emergency

All of their essential lifesaving services — both animal and human who might otherwise stay behind to care for their creatures — are provided free of charge, leaving the organization beloved by the equine community.

In Earl Warren’s parking lot, there sits a 30-foot Conex shipping container. “It has hoses, buckets, wheelbarrows, feed, bedding, our Kawasaki mule, temporary lighting, tools, anything that we may need to be up and running,” said Rhonda Hathaway.

Next to the shipping container used to be a 24-foot response trailer, which is used as the command center for recording all the animals evacuated in accordance with ICS protocols and Department of Animal Service rules. Earl Warren management requested that Equine Evac move the trailer temporarily for the Santa Barbara Fair & Expo back in April, and they have not been allowed to bring it back to the property since.

“We are concerned that the trailer’s continued absence could create delays in response time and may impact the safety, security, and orderly movement of people and animals during emergency activation,” said Sara Aguilar, director of the Santa Barbara County Animal Services, the agency in charge of activating Earl Warren Showgrounds in the event of an emergency.

“We’ll welcome it back as soon as the contract is signed,” Sprague said.

Tasked by California to Be Prepared

“The ability to safely shelter animals during evacuations not only protects valuable livestock and companion animals, but also allows residents to evacuate more quickly and safely, knowing their animals are cared for,” said former Montecito Fire Chief David Neels.

Earl Warren Showgrounds is, and continues to be, the only location designated as a large animal emergency evacuation center in South County. Strategically located next to Highway 101 and neighboring Santa Barbara Golf Club, the property is defensible from fires, is easily accessible, and has barns and facilities capable of housing large animals. The next closest large animal evacuation center capable of handling horses, cattle, goats, and other species is more than 30 miles away at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

Equine Evac has been the primary resource for large animal evacuations in South County since its formation. Santa Barbara County Fire Captain Micheal Gray said, “We notify them, and they handle it, and we’re very appreciative of the work they do.”

For the past 35 years, their relationship has been stable. Earl Warren hosts the animals, and Equine Evac provides the care and supplies and can be set up in just one hour, ready to receive the first four-legged evacuees.

Previous Earl Warren management have solidified this relationship with Equine Evac with memorandums of understanding (MOUs) and rental contracts listing rental fees at zero dollars a month. The most recent documented rental agreement, provided to the Independent by Equine Evac, listed the rental fees at zero dollars and expired on December 31, 2024.

In June 2026, a letter was sent from Earl Warren to Equine Evac notifying the nonprofit that in order to be in accordance with the California State Constitution, Equine Evac would have to pay rent for the equipment kept on the property, and that rent would be \$600 per month calculated based on market-rate value.

“With consideration that Cal-Fire has declared a year-round fire season and that Earl Warren Showgrounds is a part of the California statewide fairgrounds emergency network, there is an obligation by the Board of Directors to support a no-charge rental agreement,” said Lisa Baca, president of the California State Horsemen’s Association, in a letter to the board.

CEO Sprague said that this new charge is not meant to target Equine Evac directly, but is part of a larger effort on the part of Earl Warren management to standardize rental agreements with all private and public entities using the Earl Warren property.

“Adding an extra expense to a nonprofit of this kind is really difficult, and it harms a pattern of great community service we’ve had for these years,” said Kathy Rosenthal during public comment at Thursday’s meeting.

Efficiency in Emergency Evacuations

As a part of a statewide effort to make emergency response more efficient, the California Department of Food and Agriculture has been reviewing and assessing emergency protocols and memorandums of understanding (MOUs) of District Agricultural Associations and the fairgrounds they manage, including Earl Warren.

When an emergency does occur, the response is paid for by the local, state, or county agency who maintains jurisdiction over the land where the incident started. For example, if a wildfire were sparked in Los Padres National Forest, the federal government would pay for the emergency response. So, when organizations like Earl Warren are activated by the county for emergency response, they will be reimbursed.

But the question of long-term storage of emergency equipment is another issue.

In unison with the state's emergency plan streamlining process, rental agreements for all the public and private entities using Earl Warren property are getting "cleaned up" and standardized to be in compliance with the California State constitution, which prohibits the gifting of public funds.

"We are having to formalize agreements," said legal counsel for the California Department of Food and Agriculture Brandi Gragg. "We're having to charge rent where maybe rent wasn't charged previously."

Since Equine Evac is renting the space for free, and Earl Warren property is owned by the state, according to Gragg, their current agreement is considered a gift of public funds and needs to be changed.

During public comment, Phillip Seymour, an attorney who spent 25 years representing public agencies and a former firefighter, read directly from court documents, "This is a direct quote from the California Supreme Court, 'It's well settled that in determining whether an appropriation of public funds or property is to be considered gift, the primary question is whether the funds are to be used for a public or private purpose. If they are for a public purpose, they are not a gift.'"

Gragg said during the meeting, "any emergency response activation group, Cal Fire, Cal OES, PG&E, anybody who is activated or utilized in the emergency, if they're storing equipment on fairgrounds, they're paying for it."

There were so many public comments at Thursday's meeting, that even despite limiting each speaker to one minute only, the time ran out and the board was forced to make a decision. Director Miguel Avila called a motion to move the Equine Evac rental amount approval to be voted on another day, which passed, with the stipulation that a concrete decision regarding the matter must be made by the end of next month's meeting.

"It's a treasure that you have here, so be wise," said Dr. Nijera in public comment addressing the board. "If you lose [Equine Evac] it is going to be a horrible thing. You'll be remembered."



Equine Evac's Vice President Karen Christensen giving public comment at the 19th District board meeting on 8/27. | Credit: Elaine Sanders

*I want to leave the world a better place for horses and people.
Monty Roberts*

CALIFORNIA STATE
HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED

1330 W. Robinhood Dr. Suite D
Stockton, CA 95207
Ph: (209) 227-7110
Fax: (888) 389-0359
E-mail: CSHA@att.net



Website:
californiastatehorsemen.org

What is California State Horsemen's Association, Inc.?

CSHA was founded in 1942 for the purpose of fostering interest in all breeds of horses and forms of horsemanship throughout the state of California.

CSHA has designed a wide range of programs which offer participants opportunities for growth and enjoyment regardless of their type of riding, breed of horse or experience level.

CSHA implements its programs via its 18 geographic regions throughout the State of California. These Regions have elected officers and appointed program chairs who volunteer their time to develop their respective programs and who represent clubs and individuals that participate in various programs offered by the Association. CSHA Mission Statement: "PROVIDING EQUESTRIANS WITH QUALITY, FAMILY-ORIENTED AMATEUR EVENTS, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR ALL EQUINE BREEDS AND DISCIPLINES."

CSHA is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization.

LOOKING AHEAD

Nov 5-8, 2026
Redding



Join us at our Annual
Convention!
November 5-8, 2026



A silhouette of a horse is shown in profile, running from left to right across the middle of the page. The background is a warm, orange-hued sunset or sunrise scene with a bright sun low on the horizon, creating a lens flare effect. The horse's mane and tail appear to be flowing. The entire scene is framed by a yellow border on the left and top, and a blue border on the right and bottom.

*Thank you for supporting California
State Horsemen's Association. We
look forward to sharing more
Association news in the months to
come. In the meantime, happy trails
to you and yours.*