



Merced Horsemen's Association

NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue X

December 2011

President's Message

Well here we are on our last month of the year and elections for next years candidates are at our December meeting. We have a lot planned for everyone and invite you to **rsvp** so we can have food and fun for you and your family. We have also combined the awards this year so come support all the hard riding this year. At our last meeting we took a look back over this year and have had to make some hard decisions. We would like to hear from all our members to see what you would like to see more of at Merced Horsemen. We look forward to serving you this coming year and hope to hear from you so we can serve you better. Good luck riding this winter and hope to see you on horseback soon.

J. A. Thomas

President

209-761-7740 jat1997@gmail.com

2011 MHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Note: all area codes are 209 unless otherwise indicated

Karen Camp	394-8784
Mike Conley	262-5851
Karen Kiil	722-5862
Lisa Krogh	357-8866
Jennifer McCulloch	769-0765
Brett Weaver	756-8733

2011 MHA OFFICERS

President:

J.A. Thomas 761.-7740

Vice President:

Tony Aragon 357-8866

Secretary:

Carol Suggs 966-8150
mercedhorsemens@yahoo.com

CFO:

Bill Suggs 966-8150

NEWSLETTER: If you have something to submit, please do it by the 20th of the month to insure that we have time to get it to the printer. Submissions should be sent to:

mhanewsletter@yahoo.com

Limited classified ads are free to members, space permitting. Business Card Ads are \$20 per month or \$100 per year! If you would like to customize an ad let us know.

ADVERTISE: ARENA SIGNS:
Contact J.A. THOMAS 209-761-7740 or LISA KROGH 209-357-8866 FOR INFO!

Schedule of Events/Meetings

DECEMBER		
	3	Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Awards, 6 p.m. General Meeting/Elections, 6:15 p.m. Santa, 6:30 p.m. Dinner, After Dinner: Cowboy Poetry
	8	Thursday, Last Board, General Meeting for 2011, 6:30 pm
JANUARY		
	12	Thursday, Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.



IMPORTANT NOTICE ON MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS:

RENEWALS OR NEW MEMBERSHIPS POST MARKED BY DECEMBER 31, 2011 CAN TAKE \$10 off FAMILY, COUPLE or SINGLE MEMBERSHIPS or \$5 OFF JUNIOR MEMBERSHIPS! TELL YOUR FRIENDS!



2012 MHA Ballot Officers and Board Members

Merced Horsemen's members may vote **by mail** or **in person** at the December 3, 2011 general meeting. Each member is **entitled to one (1) vote** on each matter submitted to a vote of the members. **To vote by mail:** Mail absentee ballot ASAP_to: MHA Ballot, PO Box 2585, Merced, CA 95344 (Your vote is important: A quorum of 25% of the membership is required to elect new officers & board. Votes will be counted on December 3rd and not finalized until a quorum is met).

(Vote for one)

	MEMBER	SPOUSE
President J.A. Thomas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President Tony Aragon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secretary Carol Suggs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chief Financial Officer Bill Suggs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Board Member (Vote for two) Kimberly Conley	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Karen Kiil	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dawn Rinehart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ABSENTEE VOTES(S): Please sign and print names below.

(For Privacy Option; please make a copy for second signature)

(Print) Member

(Signature)

(Print) Spouse

(Signature)



MHA CHRISTMAS DINNER

(Turkey with all the trimmings YUM!)

AWARDS, GENERAL MEETING, ELECTIONS & COWBOY POETRY

SATURDAY DECEMBER 3rd

~ 5:30 p.m. Awards ~ 6:00 p.m. ~ General Meeting/Elections ~ 6:15 p.m. Santa ~
6:30 p.m. Dinner ~ After Dinner: Cowboy Poetry

COME PREPARED TO CHEER FOR THOSE GETTING AWARDS, SEE SANTA,
EAT & BE MERRY & ENJOY STORIES & POETRY BY LOCAL COWBOY POETS :

MADISON SEAMANS, SHARON POWER &

SPECIAL GUEST: PAT RICHARDSON

MEMBERS ARE FREE, \$10 FOR NON MEMBERS

WE ARE LOOKING FOR AWESOME DESSERTS FOR OUR AUCTION AS WELL AS SILENT AUCTION ITEMS, SO GET IN THAT WORKSHOP OR WHIP UP SOMETHING IN THE KITCHEN TO DONATE TO THIS WORTHY CAUSE.

(Proceeds from the dessert and silent auction benefit the scholarship & building/maintenance fund)

Also, we will be taking a poll from members to see what events you would like to have at the club for 2012. If you would like to chair an event or a fundraiser for the club, please let us know.

MUST RSVP for Dinner and for children who will be seeing Santa.

RSVP by: Monday November 28, 2011

Karen Camp 209-394-8784



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Mike Altomare

209-725-0349

Offices: 209-725-0391

Fax: 209-720-0105

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KAREN LOPES

LAZY K RANCH



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Received in the MHA mail box :

Dear Merced Horsemen's Assn.

Thank you for hosting the play day. I had a fun time. The games and the raffle were very fun, the pizza was amazing. I just wanted to thank you.

*From,
Savanna R. Savage*

Editor: THANK YOU Savanna for coming out to the play day and participating with your family!

LOST AND FOUND:

A pair of youth/ladies western spurs and straps were left hanging on the tie rail after the play-day on October 30. Please call Carol to identify:

209-966-8150 or email:

limofunder@sti.net

DID YOU KNOW?

Horses have five highly developed senses: taste, touch, hearing, smell, and sight. They also have an enigmatic sixth sense, heightened perception (aka "everything is about to eat me").



2011-2012 MERCED COUNTRY FAIR

RODEO QUEEN:

MISS KRISTINA TATOM

Correction from last month: Kristina was one of the 4 young ladies who were representing the Chowchilla Stampede Royalty at the Madera Cattlemen's Charity Luncheon. Kristina wears two hats (crowns), one for Merced and one for the Chowchilla Stampede. Indeed a busy lady!

Membership Application/Renewal

Merced Horsemen's Association

PAY OR POSTMARKED BY
12/31/11 and TAKE \$5 off JR
MEMBERSHIP AND \$10 OFF
FAMILY, COUPLE OR SINGLE
MEMBERSHIP!

P.O. Box 2585, 499 W. Nevada Street Merced, CA 95344

Date: _____

Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Spouse's Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Please List Your Children (ages 17 and under) Below:

First and Last Name	Birth Date	Age
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Physical Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Check here if you DO NOT want the newsletter link to be sent to you by **email**

Activities/Interest

Please Check Horse-Related Activities You Are Interested In:

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cutting | <input type="checkbox"/> Drafting | <input type="checkbox"/> Group Camping | <input type="checkbox"/> Gymkhana |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Penning | <input type="checkbox"/> Play Days | <input type="checkbox"/> Reining | <input type="checkbox"/> Roping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sorting | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Rides | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

2012 Annual Membership Dues:

Please Check Membership Type/Amount:

- | | |
|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership Dues (including children age 17 and under) | \$70.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Husband/Wife Membership Dues | \$60.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single Membership Dues (age 18 and over) | \$50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Junior Membership (under age 18) | \$30.00 |

Requested Previous Years Workday credits: Number of hours worked: _____

Note: Membership dues may be reduced by receiving credits for participating on scheduled workdays. Workday credits will be applied to the next year's dues at a rate of \$5/hr to a **minimum of \$20.00**.

Official Use Only

Amount Paid In Cash: _____ Amount Paid By Check: _____ Check No. _____

Collected By: _____ Date: _____

(Please Read and Sign Release of Liability on Back)

Release of Liability

I acknowledge that horseback riding, activities/events involving horses and/or cattle, is a sport which carries inherent risks and damage to myself, my horse, and property. I knowingly assume all risks, whether known or unknown, of horseback riding and activities/events involving horses and/or cattle.

I hereby release the Merced Horsemen's Association (hereinafter referred to as MHA), its members, directors, and/or officers, or any other organization or person responsible for sponsoring or in any way involved in any event that I may participate in from all liability for any act of negligence or want of ordinary care on the part of MHA or any of its agents. In consideration of my participation in events organized or sponsored by MHA, I wave, release and discharge MHA, their directors, officers, agents, and members, their representatives, heirs, executors and assigns from any and all claims of liability for injury or damage to myself, my animals, or my property arising out of my participation. This agreement is binding upon my executors, heirs, and assigns.

I expressly waive any rights I may have under California Civil Code 1542, which states: "A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his favor at the time of executing the release, which if known by him might have materially affected his settlement with the debtor."

I agree that I will indemnify and hold harmless MHA, their directors, officers, members, and agents against all claims, demands, and causes of action, including court costs and actual attorney fees, arising from any proceedings or lawsuits brought by or prosecuted for my benefit, in which this release is upheld.

MHA, its agents or employees shall not be liable for any damage which may accrue from any cause or as a result of fire, theft, running away, state of health, injury to person, horse, or property. I acknowledge that I have read this Release of Liability and know and understand its contents.

Participant: _____ Telephone: _____

Participant Signature: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Date: _____

MINORS DO NOT SIGN THIS FORM

PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIAN MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION

I, the undersigned parent or guardian of the minor in consideration of my minor's participation in the event, agree that the terms and conditions of this Release of Liability shall be binding as to damage or injury to my minor, his animals, and property arising out of his participation in events. I acknowledge that I have read this Release of Liability and know and understand its contents.

Name(s) of Minor: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____





Happy
Holidays,
Pardner!

YOUR NEWSLETTER CHAIR FOR 2012 IS KIMBERLY CONLEY. YOU CAN SEND ITEMS IN FOR THE NEWSLETTER TO:

mhanewsletter@yahoo.com

THE LAST 18 MONTHS OF DOING THE NEWSLETTER HAVE BEEN FUN, HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED IT! HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Carol Suggs



MERCED HORSEMEN'S
ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 2585
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GOT SOMETHING FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

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