



Merced Horsemen's Association

NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue VI
June 2011

President's Message

Welcome all to the month of June. We are praying that this virus has passed and not one of you had to deal with it. We appreciate the efforts of the California Department of Food and Agriculture and their daily updates. With them staying on top of things and keeping their web up to date we have been able to realize that this epidemic is being contained and are able to go ahead with our June events. So contact your chair and come on out with your horse to enjoy some great riding weather. Just so you know you need to bring out your own buckets for water. The recent incident made us realize how susceptible we could have been to a similar thing and we have removed our communal water troughs. We do apologize for any inconvenience but feel that this would be best in the interest of the club. If you want to see the updates from the CDFA you can go to our facebook page and follow the link from there. Thanks for your time and may the rest of this year bring you better riding days.

J.A. Thomas (209)761-7740 jat1997@gmail.com



Schedule of Events/Meetings

JUNE

- 3 Friday Nite Poles & Barrels (open event)
- 4 Saturday NorCal Jr Rodeo (outside event)
- 9 Thursday, Board and General Meeting, 6:30 pm
- 11 Saturday, Merced County Fair Jr Horseshow & Gymkhana (outside event)
- 11 Saturday, Tack Sale/Flea Market 8am- 3pm
- 11 Saturday, Sorting 4pm (open event)
- 18 Saturday, Gymkhana, sign ups 830am, start 9am (club only)
- 25 Saturday, Gymkhana, sign ups 830am, start 9am (club only)

JULY

- 9 Saturday, Sorting 4pm (open event)
- 14 Thursday, Board and General Meeting, 6:30 pm



2011 MHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Note: all area codes are 209 unless otherwise indicated

Karen Camp	394-8784
Mike Conley	262-5851
Arnie Kiil	769-3270
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

INSIDE:

- ⇒ NOR CAL JR RODEO!
- ⇒ Sorting & Gymkhana
- ⇒ Tack Sale
- ⇒ Reining & Stock Horse Show
- ⇒ Queen Contests for Merced & Mariposa
- ⇒ Mariposa Horse Show
- ⇒ 4C's Cutting Show



MHA EVENT NEWS



FRIDAY, JUNE 3rd POLES AND BARRELS!

Merced Horseman's is hosting an open Poles I (California Poles) & Cloverleaf Barrels time only event. Sign-ups start @ 6:30pm and ride @7pm, \$5 per go and limit is 3 goes for Poles I & 3 goes for Barrels per horse. If you have any questions please email me.

Next Scheduled club Gymkhana is...

Saturday June 18 & June 25

(members only, can join that day) Sign ups
830am, start 9am

Please come and help out a little at these events it really takes the stress off and helps us to run a better and more efficient event. Any little bit helps. Jennifer 209-769-0765
crzy4appys@gmail.com

NOR CAL JR RODEO SATURDAY JUNE 4th

Come on out and cheer for the contestants as they compete in various events from Calf Riding, Steer Riding, Single Stake, Steer Stopping, Team Roping, Family Team Roping, Breakaway Roping, Barrel Racing, Goat Tying, Pole Bending, Bull Riding and Chute Dogging...plus the always favorite pee wee events of Dummy Roping, Stick Horse Race and Goat Undressing. It should be a fun day! MHA is serving breakfast burritos and will have an awesome lunch. If you can stop in and help out that day, please do so.

SORTING REPORT

Congrats goes out to our 2 jackpot winners from **May: Brett Weaver and Bob Hefner!** This team took home \$40 each. Bring your friends to the club for open sortings. Next one is set for June 11th_at 4pm. Practice Runs are \$5.00 per go, you pick your partner. \$10 per jackpot run (draw). Jackpot sign ups will have a specific time and if you are not signed up by the jackpot time deadline you will not get to jackpot that night. PLEASE make sure that you pay before your run. In order to practice run you must have a ticket showing proof of payment. Special deal for **members only**: Buy two practice goes and get 1 free. Only one freebie per member, per night. We need help. It takes time to get the cattle in, numbered, set the panels up, register people, run the sorting and put away the panels at the end of the night. PLEASE if only a few people can help out we can run the sortings more effectively. Contact: Brett 209-756-8733 Annie 209-769-3270

MHA EVENT NEWS CONTINUED....

EXCA RACE... my experience.... By Carol

As it relates to horses, the need for speed has really never been my thing. After having major two horse related accidents which resulted in broken legs, surgery, hardware, synthetic bone and cadaver bone replacement over a 15 year period I am pretty cautious about what I do with my horses.

When Craig Cameron first introduced the Cowboy Race concept, we watched it on RFD TV a few years ago I must say it was pretty entertaining. It reminded me of Trail Trials* on steroids. For those not familiar with the event it is a timed obstacle course. The course can be run outdoors or in an arena. There are specific obstacles which are rated 1 - 6 with 1 being the easiest and 6 being the most difficult. Currently there are 7 divisions: Young Guns, Youth, Novice, Non Pro, Pro, Ride Smart and Futurity. Within each division is a rating of obstacles. For example the Young Guns only do obstacles with a rating of a 1 or a 2, whereas the Pro division does obstacles rated 1- 6. Also the amount of obstacles varies in some of the divisions.

The association, Extreme Cowboy Association (EXCA), is the sanctioning body for the Cowboy Races. There are currently 17 regions throughout the United States and many EXCA members run in races chasing points so that they can qualify for the Championship.

What I found unique and interesting in the event is the scoring. Although time is a factor you are scored on each obstacle and you are also awarded horsemanship points on each obstacle. Scoring is 0 (didn't complete obstacle, + 30 second penalty) through 10 with 10 being perfect and rarely given. You have 8 minutes to complete the course, but most courses are completed in about 5-6 minutes. There are many different obstacles that can be chosen for the course and any obstacle used must be approved by the EXCA and the event must use an EXCA approved judge.

I attended a practice session with my horse about a month ago. We went through some obstacles, then had a mock "race". I found it to be fun and challenging. Now that I had my nerve up, I decided to do the race that JA was hosting at Horsemen's.

We had a competitor there in the Ride Smart division who was a top finalist in a prior Championship and another competitor who has qualified for past years Championship. They welcomed us newbies and although they were competitors they gave us some friendly advice. At our particular event we had riders in the Young Guns, Youth, Novice, Pro, Non Pro and Ride Smart divisions. Our judge "Bubba" was very professional and approachable. He stayed after the competition to give us advice and explain his scoring which was very helpful for us greenies.

Our particular obstacle course was festooned with American flags, red balloons, and a very large whirly gig. The 13 obstacles that we did were: 1) open and close gate 2) free ride 3) hoist pull (weighted saddle bags with sleighbells and a cowbell) 4) side pass 5) spin box 6) lope slow and fast small circles 7) double back on the fence 8) daisy wheel (with balloons on each pole) 9) barrel jump (with two American flags on either side of the barrels) 10) stop 11) flag race (with a sheep skin draped over one of the barrels) 12) series of log jumps 13) modified free ride, stop, dismount and lead out of the gate. I raced three times in the Non Pro Division and I had a blast. I felt that my horse did extremely well and was one of the few horses to score a 7 that day. My average scores were 6-6.5 for most obstacles and my times were in the low 5 minute marks.

At this event, the winners of the Young Gun and Youth divisions both took home halters and leads donated by Merced Ranch Supply. The other divisional winners received a 50% pay back from the entries in their respected divisions.

I have stated I don't have a need for speed and apparently that has changed as the free ride was my favorite part of the course! This was definitely something I would do again, and if you ever get an opportunity to attend one of these events as a participant or a spectator I highly encourage it!

*Trail Trials is an event wherein a 2-3 hour marked trail ride takes place and along the way there are specific obstacles that are judged. It is not a race, but is judged on the execution of each obstacle.

Note from J.A.: I would like to say *thanks* to everyone who helped make our Cowboy Challenge such a success. Merced Ranch Supply graciously supplied the Halters for the Youth, Hailey Monk, and Young Gun, Jesse Massey, division winners. We had a 50% payback to the other divisions. Shauna Brantly in the Pro, Sierra Rinehart in the NonPro, Mary Anne Dingler in the Novice, and Pam Salin in the Ride Smart. A great big thanks also goes out to all the Help before and during that day. Bubba Elliot was our judge and Kathy Amos designed our course, her first one and what a great job. Dennis Friesen, Bill Suggs, Lisa Krogh, Tony Aarogon, Dawn Rinehart (who also brought coffee), as well as all the other contestants. Hopefully we will get to do this again.

MHA EVENTS CONTINUED....

ANYTHING WESTERN!



TACK SALE...SWAP MEET...

FLEA MARKET...BAZAAR...WHATEVER
YA WANT TO CALL IT,
WE ARE HAVING IT!

June 11th, 2011

\$25 per space for MHA members and clubs or organizations and \$35 per space for non members. Come watch the *Merced Jr Fair Horse Show* and buy or sell stuff! Food will be available for sale throughout the day. Spaces are available on a first come, first paid basis. No trailers or vehicles on the lawn. Provide your own awning and table(s). Start cleaning out that tack room!

contact Carol 209-966-8150

or Melony 209-394-5055 to volunteer or to reserve your space! (WE COULD USE HELP IN THE KITCHEN)

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: mercedhorsemens@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!

OPEN CUTTING, STOCKHORSE & REINING SHOWS ARE BACK!

AQHA ~ PCQHA ~ WCRHA
APPROVED!

SEPTEMBER 10 & OCTOBER 8



Special thanks to Debbie Valdero Tweedy & Stacey Cook for sponsoring the sanctioning of these shows. Tereasa Canada is back as our show manager for these events and everyone knows she runs a great show. Contact her at: 707-318-5933 or email: gssinfo@sbcglobal.net

Remember, sign ups for cow classes are 1 week ahead.

For info on sponsoring this show you can contact:

Lisa Krogh 209-357-8866

or

Brett Weaver 209-756-8733

ALSO...along with Brett Weaver, Tereasa will be managing:

RSNC sanctioned RANCH SORTING AUGUST 6



For Sale: 2003 FORD F250, 2WD, Super Cab, XLT, Super Duty Power Stroke 6.0 Turbo Diesel, Auto Transmission, tow hitch & gooseneck hitch, air bags for heavy loads, 97K miles, 2 WD, Super Cab, Brown w/Tan Interior, Air, Cruise, Long Bed, Power Windows & Mirrors, Power Locks with Keyless entry, Power Seat, Running Boards, Aux Pwr, ABS Brakes, Alloy Wheels, CD Audio...One Owner!!! Excellent Shape! The average diesel goes over 400,000 miles! High Blue book:\$20,000 Low Blue Book:\$15,000. Was: \$17.5K / obo Now \$15K/OBO READY TO HAUL YOUR HORSE! (209) 357-8866 - Lisa or Tony

SPECIAL THANKS TO :

MERCED RANCH SUPPLY

FOR SUPPLYING HALTERS
AND LEAD ROPES FOR THE
YOUNG GUN AND YOUTH
DIVISIONS OF THE EXCA
RACE IN MAY!



AWESOME OFFER:

Dr Madison Seamans, DVM, MS, is offering a 10% discount on equine veterinary services to Merced Horsemen's members. (No this doesn't mean that if you are a member of the Mariposa Club and the Merced Club that you can double this offer!)

Check him out on the web at:

www.coarsegoldequine.com or send him an email
at : madisonseamans@gmail.com

Non Emergency: 559-689-3343 or 209-742-1020
Emergency Pager: 559-658-3157



Merced County Fair Rodeo
Committee Crowns their new
Queen on Friday June 17th
6pm at the Merced County
Fair Rodeo Grounds, Main
Grandstands.

Foster Farms

P.O. Box 831 1000 Swan Street Livingston, ca 95334

(209) 394-6969 EXT. 4946 Pager (209) 520-8674

Cell (209) 495-2646 aragont@fosterfarms.com



**MARIPOSA PIONEER
WAGON TRAIN CANCELED
BUT
COWBOY POETRY DINNER
STILL GOING ON**

The Mariposa County Pioneer Wagon Train Committee announced that because of the EVH1 (Equine Herpes virus) outbreak that they are canceling this year's event. Although there are no confirmed cases that have been reported in Mariposa County, concern was for participants traveling from outside the area.

The Cowboy Poetry Dinner will still take place on Saturday June 18th at the historic Van Ness Ranch on Carleton Road in Mariposa. Featuring the work of well-known and local poets Bud Puckett and Dr. Madison Seamans.

Saturday night will also feature a wonderful Chuck Wagon Dinner and Country Western Dance. Lots of great raffle prizes will be given away, and awards will be given for the most authentically dressed participants, most memorable, plus some other fun categories...

Cost for the festivities is \$25

Come-as-you-are is fine for the dinner and dance, but a lot of us have fun dressing in "period finery"!

For updated information check on the Wagon Train website
at: www.mariposawagontrain.org



**MHA HOST'S OPEN
VERSATILE RANCH
COMPETITION
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2011**

Compete in 4 classes:

Trail

Cut Pen & Work

Reined Working Cowhorse

Riding

NON MEMBERS OPEN/LIMITED RIDERS: \$150 + CA Drug Fee. MEMBERS OPEN/LIMITED RIDERS: \$125 + CA Drug Fee (Limited riders will not go "down the fence" or rope live cattle) ***New for this year***: Open riders can opt out of roping and circle up for a penalty without disqualification in the Reined Working Cowhorse Class Buckles to the overall top scoring rider in each division ~ overall awards down to at least 3rd placing in each division ~ special prize for top MHA scoring rider.

PRE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

(check our website for forms and updates)

Food is available for purchase on site

(discount on lunch if you pre order)

Prearranged dry, overnight camping arrangements & limited pen rental available

THANKS TO OUR EARLY SPONSOR

COMMITMENTS, YOU ROCK!

~MERCED RANCH SUPPLY ~

~ LAZY K RANCH ~

~SILVER VALLEY RANCH ~

WE NEED SPONSORS! CALL ME :)

Carol 209-966-8150 (hm) 209-742-1224 (wk)

or email at: limofunder@sti.net



**OPEN WESTERN HORSE SHOW
& GYMKHANA SERIES!**

Mariposa County Fairgrounds Gold Bowl Arena

June 5 (rain date June 19)

has been cancelled due to EVH1

So get ready for the show on

July 17

Sept 19 (rain date Sept 25)

(There is a possibility that the Mariposa Fair Horse Show held on August 20 will count for MMR points to make up for the cancellation of the June show, check the website for most updated info.)

\$8 per class for non members or \$6 per class for members (you can join MMR that day); \$5 drug fee per horse... Series High Point Fee \$20 payable at the 1st or 2nd show, no charge for Day End High Point Fees

Mariposa County 4H Horse and Pony Project will be running the Cowboy Cook Shack so come and have some good eats & support the local 4H!

For entries, rules and other info checkout our website at:

www.mariposamountainriders.org or call 209-377-8202 or email: mariposamtnriders@gmail.com



Mariposa County Fair Rodeo Queen Contest is underway & seeking 2011 contestants. Contest deadline has been extended to Monday June 20th

Do you live in Mariposa, Merced or Madera Counties? Are you a young lady between the age of 16-21? Do you possess good horsemanship skills and a knowledge of Mariposa County, Rodeo and the western rural lifestyle? Then you might just be the next Mariposa County Fair Rodeo Queen! \$500 to the winner plus custom buckle, sash and Merced Rodeo Committee has donated a custom breast collar to the queen + Perpetual Parade Serape and Crown for the winner to sport during her reign. Lots of other prizes and awards for contestants. Details can be found at: www.mariposafair.org or www.mariposamountainriders.org

Or contact Carol at 209-966-8150 or Jeanne at 209-742-7866

**CENTRAL CALIFORNIA
CUTTING CLUB SHOW # 7:**

June 25, 2011

***** CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR
UPDATES BECAUSE OF EHV1*****



www.centralcaliforniacuttingclub.com



MERCED HORSEMEN'S
ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 2585
499 Nevada Street
Merced, CA 95340

mercedhorsemen@yahoo.com

We're Online!!
www.mercedhorsemenassociation.org



Support your club! Advertise here for \$20/month or \$100/year!

Krogh Ranch

7615 W. Hwy 140, Atwater, CA 95301

tel: 209.357.8866

Mailing: POBox 726, Atwater, CA 95301

Email: kroghranch@aol.com

Boarding—Foaling Service—Vet after care—Anything Horse

Monte Vista

EQUINE CARE

Dr. Carol Van Hoogmoed, d.v.m.

310 Crane Avenue

tel: 209.634.5851

Turlock, CA 95380

fax: 209.669.2191

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Foster Farms

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Generous Support
Over the years!!

Thank you

Volvo Rents

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Generous Support

GOT SOMETHING FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

PLEASE SEND IT TO:

mercedhorsemen@yahoo.com