

Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association

P.O. Box 2326 Loomis CA 95650

Volume 28 Issue 6

June 2012

Newsletter

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE by Denise Howell



Well Hello There Summer! Where did Spring go? Not that I'm complaining. Happy faces all around! Last year at this time we were facing storms and the EHV-1 Virus. This year it's on to bigger things like the Horse Expo and our 2 Horse Shows in October. Important Stuff!!

It is the time again for me to remind everyone that we are rounding up all our Horse Expo Volunteers. We appreciate everyone that has volunteered in the past and hope to recruit some new smiling faces again this year. The shifts are short and leave plenty of time for shopping! Call or email Donna Kelly and she can tell you what spots are still open and send your tickets to you. It's a great opportunity to meet people and the parking and entrance tickets are at a discount.

While we're on the subject of volunteers...our horse shows are sneaking up on us. October 13th and 14th may seem like a long way away, but in horse show time it's right around the corner. We need volunteers for EVERYTHING; office workers, gate people, parking and set up. It's a lot of fun and the weather is usually beautiful. Additionally, remember that the kids depend on us for this show, and we need all the help we can get. The kids look forward to the show all year, and they depend on volunteers for the support it takes to make these shows successful year after year. Help us help the kids!

Tevis Cup is right around the corner so watch out for fast moving horses in training out on the trails. Be considerate and move over when you can and if you have to, call out to be sure they see you.

Along with the sunshine come the flies. Manure control is the best way to keep flies down. Flies carry disease including pigeon fever (it is believed) so let's all do our part in keeping our horses comfortable and healthy.

Tally Whoa...

Denise Howell
Latte' & Beethoven

SUPPORTING LBHA HELPS SAVE AND MAINTAIN OUR TRAILS, THE ARENA AT THE PARK , TRAYLOR RANCH AND THE RURAL LIFESTYLE

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*A Dog looks up to a man, a cat looks down on a man,
 but a patient horse looks a man in the eye and sees him
 as an equal. A horse is like a violin. First it must be
 tuned, and when tuned, it must be accurately
 played.*



TRAYLOR RANCH NATURE RESERVE

Our 2nd workday for the year at Traylor Ranch Nature Reserve was on Saturday May 26. The great news was even though it was Memorial Day weekend, we had a great turnout. A big thank you goes out to everyone who took time away from other activities to help out. It is through your efforts that makes and keeps TRNR the special place that it is.

The weedwackers this month included John Gazso, Maureen Henderson and a new volunteer, Kimberly Henson. You might see her around the area riding her Longhorn! Thanks to Jane Brown, Mary Westfall and Jennifer Wright who filled gopher holes and cut back blackberry vines.

And a big thank you to Placer County who this week used their flail mower to make short work of some big areas. I mowed the rest.

TRNR is looking good. Come out and enjoy.

Our next work day as usual is the fourth saturday of the month, which is Saturday June 23 from 8-12am. We will again need help on the weed-wackers and berries. Filling rodent holes on the trails will become important. I'll bring extra wheelbarrows and shovels for anyone who could help.

If anyone has any questions or comments on TRNR, please don't hesitate to drop me a note.

Dave Faoro
TRNR Committee Chariman
dave_lbha@faoro.us (916) 663-3437

Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association Minutes— May 2012**LBHA Minutes May 16 2012
Round Table Pizza Meeting Room, Loomis**

The meeting was called to order by President Denise Howell at 7:00 pm

There was no treasurers report.

Dave Faoro gave the Traylor Ranch report. He reminded members that the 4th Saturday of every month from 8-12 is work day at the ranch. Bob Sydnor recommended that LBHA purchase a power hedge trimmer to help cut blackberries. Approximate cost is \$650.

Bob Sydor gave the Tevis Trail update. A new stone water storage tank has been placed at one of the trail heads. Cache Creek Ridge Ride had a total of 140 riders. It is the 2nd largest trail ride, Tevis still being the largest. A free chain saw class will be given by John Jue of the Forest Service on June 16 or 23. This will qualify participants to work with volunteer groups clearing brush. For additional information call (530) 333-5550.

There will be a Tevis fun ride the weekend of May 19th. A \$45 donation is asked to assist in the Tevis trail maintenance fund. Presently 60 riders have signed up.

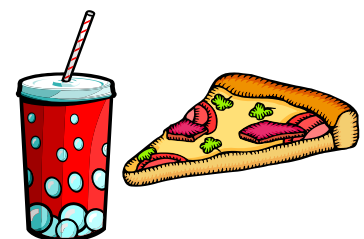
Kathy Dombrowski reported that there have been numerous parking problems at the LBHA Arena. The main gate where Horse Trailers enter and exit is being blocked by other park attendees. A discussion followed with suggestions about adding additional signs. The signs would state that blocking the gates is a safety/fire hazard and vehicles will be towed.

Denise reviewed the October Horse Show classes with the Board and members attending. Halter classes will be combined. Classes with a small numbers of participants will be eliminated. There is also a plan to add a timed Open Jumper class to the English class list.

Members are asked for recommendations for judges for the October English/Western Shows.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM

Nancy Steuck
Secretary



MEMBERSHIP

There are many of you that have DEC 11 expiration dates for your membership and a few that had memberships that expired JUN 11. Would love for all to renew so they can keep the club strong. The list of those that need to renew for DEC 11 and those that have expired memberships from JUN 11 can be found at:

http://www.garlic.com/~lbha/NeedToRenewJune_December11.pdf.

This link is found on the main LBHA Page throughout the year. So if you are not sure, check out the list. There is also a list of those that did not renew in DEC 10. If you are not getting e-mails from LBHA, we may not have the correct e-mail or you are blocking LBHA. The Newsletter goes on line the first week of each month, so if you do not get a notice, just check the webpage and then get the correct e-mail to LBHA.

Being an LBHA Member is a great way to give back to our community. We thank you in advance. Thank you.

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AD FEES For LBHA Members

(Non-Members add \$10 to below fees)

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½ page: 1year \$60 Includes Business card on Website.

½ page: 6mos \$30

Business Card Ad per issue: \$10 / issue

Business Card Ad/year: \$40/year includes card on Website

DIRECTORY ADS Deadline for Directory ads is March 1

Full Page Ad: \$25

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Business Card Ad: \$10 - Free for **LBHA Business Members**

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Classified Ads- Free to Members

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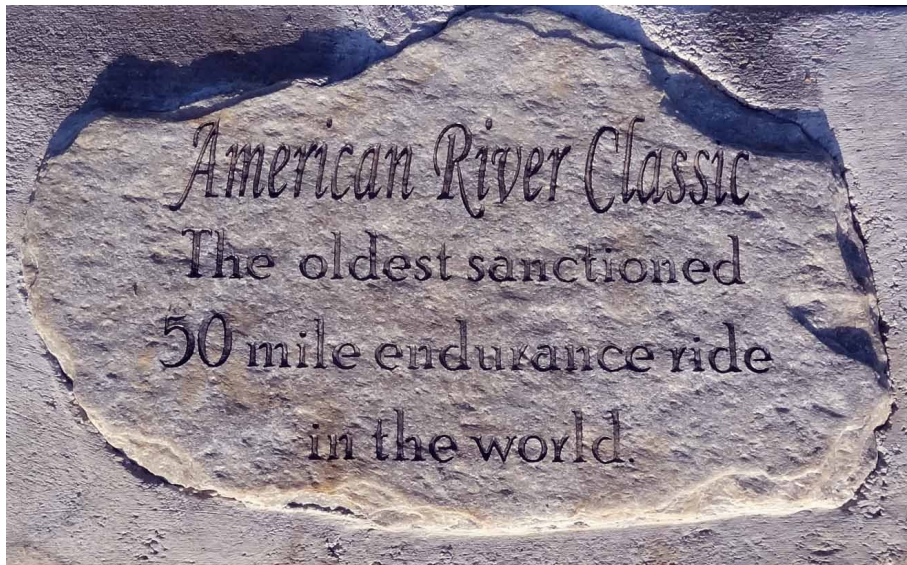
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Stone Water Trough

Olmstead Loop at Cool, El Dorado County
Auburn State Recreation Area
A stone memorial to the
American River Classic 50mile
AERC Ride

by Robert H. Sydnor, *AERC Trail Master*



In March 2012, a new stone water-trough was constructed by Paul Klentos at the Olmstead Loop in Cool. This was coordinated with Superintendent Michael Lynch, ASRA. The horse-trough memorializes the American River Classic AERC endurance ride as “the oldest sanctioned 50-mile endurance ride in the world.” The ride was founded in 1972 by the same Auburn group of riders that concurrently founded the American Endurance Ride Conference (www.aerc.org). As of 2012, there have been 39 annual rides in the month of April.

The stone water-trough also contains the engraved name of Erin Klentos’ amazing mare (Cougar’s Fete) who twice achieved the rare dual honor of the Tevis Cup (=first place) and simultaneously the Haggin Cup (=best condition). That equals four awards in two 100-mile rides.

Erin’s son Augustus helped Paul with the masonry. They also received expert guidance from David Schurr, a professional mason, who is also an endurance runner and multi-sport athlete. The stone water-trough is a 300-gallon black Rubbermaid tank with an outside lining of rock. A manual drain-valve is used to empty the tank for cleaning (no wrench is needed). The overall cost was about \$2,000 for the Klentos family, and the project took three days of masonry work. This key water-trough will be used year-around by equestrians, as well as the 50-mile AERC endurance ride.



Olmstead Loop at Cool

At left: Paul Klentos and professional mason David Schurr at the completion of construction in March 2012. *At right:* Looking north across the equestrian assembly area at the new memorial stone water-trough; photo taken May 5, 2012.



Flat Scoop to Clean the Bottom

All equestrians need to share the responsibility of draining the tank by using the convenient manual valve, then scrubbing away slimy green algae with a brush, scooping-out the debris in bottom with a flat-scoop, rinsing again, then refilling the 300-gallon tank using the nearby water hose. There are no maintenance crews to perform this vital task, and our beloved hard-working horses deserve clean water on a hot day.



300 gallons of clean water

May 5, 2012

Seasonal Skin Conditions Part 1: Spring Skin Woes

by: [D.J. Carey Lyons](#)

Horses are at risk for season-related skin problems stemming from insects, allergies, and bacteria.

Ahh, spring. Fields grow greener, leafy trails beckon, and ... "Bzzzz!" What's that? The bugs are back. They're biting. And they've got plenty of misery-causing company.

Having their basis in bug and plant prevalence and weather conditions, many of the skin problems that plague horses are seasonal. This month, with the help of two veterinary dermatologists--one based in Texas, the other in Canada--we'll offer ways to recognize and respond to five skin ailments likely to appear in spring or early summer: insect hypersensitivity, sweet itch, contact dermatitis, scratches, and rain rot. Then in October we'll do the same for problems typically arising in cooler weather.

Insect Hypersensitivity

As spring temperatures warm, several biting insect species--black flies, horn flies, stable flies, mosquitoes, and (of course) horseflies--hatch, proliferate, and seek nourishment. "Insect hypersensitivity is the most common equine allergy," says Christine Rees, DVM, Dipl. ACVD, who taught for 13 years at Texas A&M's veterinary school before opening an equine/small animal dermatology practice in Dallas. More specifically, Ontario Veterinary College associate professor of dermatology Anthony Yu, DVM, MS, Dipl. ACVD, designates spring and summer insect hypersensitivity as insect-bite hypersensitivity, in which the bite introduces saliva that allows the insect to access more blood flow and sometimes triggers an allergic reaction.

Reactions can include severe itching with hair loss and crusting around the mane, tail, and trunk of the body, granulomas (chronic inflammatory lesions), and even heaves, an allergic respiratory disease. But the typical allergic reaction to these insect bites is hives--multiple bumps of fairly uniform size (from less than a quarter-inch to more than an inch across), usually covering an area of the body or neck. Larger hives might "weep" serum, matting the coat and causing sores; smaller ones might just make the skin feel coarse to the touch or cause a patch of hair coat to look rough.

(However, hives aren't always caused by bug bites; see sidebar on page 25.)

While some hives don't cause discomfort, typically they are itchy enough that the horse tries to obtain relief by rubbing the affected area. Rees notes this discomfort might bother the horse more than the owner realizes. "Look at body language," she says. "If you touch the affected area, he may wince or otherwise show discomfort." She urges owners not to ride a horse while the condition persists, saying, "I figure that if my skin looked like that, it would bother me."

The best approach to hypersensitivity is prevention: Minimize insects' access to horses by means of barn cleanliness, ventilation, and screens; eliminate standing water where insects breed and larvae can incubate; keep horses in the barn when biting insects are most active; and use protective turnout sheets and fly masks. An additional option, Rees says, is administering a feed-through "insect-growth regulator" that prevents fly larvae in manure from reaching maturity. "Every so often, switch out whatever fly spray you're using because some insects seem to build resistance to a single product over time," she adds. Aside from repelling insects, "Permethrin and permethrin derivatives also soothe; oil-based medications like these stay on the skin longer and so work a little better."

When bugs bite despite your defenses, Rees suggests using topical steroids, such as over-the-counter hydrocortisone medications, for immediate relief. Yu recommends oral antihistamines, with veterinary consultation. Feeding supplements containing eicosapentanoic acid (omega-3 fatty acids) further alleviates some horses' discomfort. Another product Rees has found helpful is a topical anesthetic containing tramadol--a narcoticlike pain reliever related to codeine that requires a prescription.

Sweet Itch

Also called "Queensland itch" or "summer eczema," sweet itch is "a reaction to salivary antigens in the bite of the *Culicoides* gnat," says Yu.

In affected horses, small pimplelike papules erupt on the skin, making hair stand erect and causing severe itching. The mane and tailhead are particularly common sites, and the horse might rub them so intensely that they become practically hairless or develop ulceration and scabbing. Testing for antigens confirms the diagnosis; however, Yu notes, "There are different species of *Culicoides* throughout the world. (For accurate diagnosis and treatment), it's very important to test for the particular species that's endemic to the horse's region."

Again, preventing sweet itch is the first goal; measures that help minimize general insect-bite risks help defend against *Culicoides*. But because the gnats are extremely small, only fine-mesh screens (32-by-32 holes or more per square inch) effectively prevent their passage.

Relief, as with other insect-bite hypersensitivity, starts with topical corticosteroids, followed by systemic antihistamines.

Again, supplements with eicosapentanoic acid can reduce allergic reactions, says Rees, who has also found some benefit treating sweet itch "and possibly other insect allergies" with supplements containing MSM (methylsulfonylmethane, an anti-inflammatory often used to treat joints).

For intense, chronic sweet itch a veterinarian might prescribe an short-acting oral or injectable systemic corticosteroid.

Cont'd from Pg 7

Contact Dermatitis

As the name indicates, contact dermatitis is inflammation resulting from some substance making contact with the skin. The challenge is figuring out which substance, because something that causes one horse profound irritation might not bother another.

Location is one clue to what's going on. "If the problem is a blanket," says Rees, "it's pretty obvious, because the lesions are on the back. If it's a rubber bit, you'll see redness around the lips or muzzle. If it's all over the body and you routinely shampoo the horse, think about the shampoo. If it's localized around the coronary band or the lower leg, it could be insects (or plants)--but especially if it's around the hoof and it's red and inflamed, think about allergy to bedding. Some horses are allergic to a particular kind of wood; shavings from that wood can give them problems." History is the other diagnostic clue: What's changed lately in the horse's routine, surroundings, equipment, shampoos, sprays, medications, or even diet?

Again, topical corticosteroids can relieve initial inflammation. Then start your detective work: Look at where the irritation is; think back over your horse's history; then start removing possible irritants, one at a time. After each change, clean the inflamed area with mild soap and water; then wait a few days. Contact dermatitis will reappear until you eliminate the cause.

Scratches

Scratches is a nonspecific diagnosis similar to hives in that a number of things can cause the condition, says Rees. "In some cases the condition is fungal; in some it's bacterial, or a contact dermatitis, or an insect allergy," she explains. Thus, Yu, at the minimum, recommends veterinarians perform diagnostic skin scrapings and cytology (study of the cells) and perhaps a fungal culture.

Characteristics typical of scratches--also called "pastern dermatitis" or "greasy heel"--include infection, inflammation, and swelling at the rear of the pasterns and possibly farther up the legs; crusty, scabby, or weepy lesions; skin that's red and painful to the touch; and hair loss.

When treating scratches, Rees says to clip excess pastern hair if the horse tolerates it. Then wash the area gently--since it might be quite painful--with an antiseptic soap such as Betadine surgical scrub or chlorhexidine solution. Leave the scrub on for 10 minutes before rinsing and drying well. Apply antibiotic ointment to the lesions. For severe infections consult your veterinarian, who might prescribe systemic antimicrobials.

Rain Rot

As the name suggests, rain rot--or dermatophilosis, caused by *Dermatophilus congolensis* bacteria--is a rainy-season problem. So if spring is wet, that's when it will probably show up; if fall or winter is wet, it's likely then as well. "The *Dermatophilus* organism needs moisture to proliferate, release, and spread the infective forms of the bacteria, called zoospores. Horses might become infected from direct contact with contaminated fomites (inanimate objects or substances capable of carrying infectious organisms; for example, the bacterium can survive dormant in bits of fallen-off scab for months) or an asymptomatic carrier, or indirectly through transmission by insects," Yu explains. "(Rain rot) needs a triple combination of circumstances, moisture plus bacteria plus trauma, to cause clinical signs. Eliminate any one of those three factors and you eliminate the development of the disease. The 'trauma' could be induced by an insect carrying the organism and whose bite damages the epidermal barrier of the skin, creating an opening for the bacteria to get in. Rain (or moisture in general) is the last necessary ingredient to make it an active disease."

Rain rot proliferates along the back--from neck and withers to croup--as well as on the legs. On the horse's skin, explains Rees, it causes kind of a crust; when the crust lifts up, the skin beneath is ulcerated. In a long winter coat, raised tufts of serum-matted hair, called paintbrush lesions, develop; they might get pulled out or brushed off. Itching does not seem to be a problem, but touching affected skin or picking at the scabs can cause pain.

Remember that rain rot can spread between horses. Thus, isolate any affected horse; don't share tack, equipment, or blankets; be certain the infected horse is always the last one you handle; and after treating the animal wash your hands and clean the treatment area (e.g., wash rack or grooming stall). To relieve discomfort, "injected or oral antibiotics may be needed," Rees says, "but if the condition isn't too severe, you may be able to deal with it through a topical treatment, such as a peroxide shampoo." Then to avoid enabling bacteria growth, dry the area completely.

Take-Home Message

The best offense against warm-season equine skin problems is a savvy defense: eliminating risks and irritants, minimizing horses' exposure to bugs and bacteria, checking scrupulously for bumps and rubs and sensitive spots every time you groom, using history and observation to deduce probable causes for those itches or ouches, and teaming up with your veterinarian to help your horses fight allergens.

In October we will show how to mount a similarly effective defense against a different set of problems: those for which risk rises as the average temperature drops, winter hair coats sprout, and horses spend more time blanketed and/or indoors.



Horse Expo Volunteers Needed - Donna Kelly

LBHA will once again have a booth at the Western States Horse Expo, June 8-10. This is our opportunity to show to the horse community at-large our commitment to keeping horse trails open and safe as well as showcasing our wonderful arena and the Traylor Ranch Nature Reserve. We are in need volunteers to man the booth each day. We are again in the same air-conditioned building. It's a nice place to relax and stash your purchases after (or before!) watching clinicians and shopping.

The Expo opens at 9 am on each day and ends at 7 pm Friday and Saturday and 5 pm on Sunday. Each shift lasts 2 ½ hours each day except for the last shift on Sunday (2 hour shift and then help with tear down). We will also need help setting up the booth on Thursday afternoon (takes about 3 1/2 hours including travel time and loading/unloading the truck) and taking it down after the Expo on Sunday at 5 pm. Thanks to volunteers at the April meeting, I already have at least 1 person for each shift on Friday and Saturday.

Each volunteer gets an Expo pass good for all 3 days for only \$15 (a \$45 value). Parking passes are \$20 for a 3 day pass or \$7 daily (regular cost is \$10 daily). This is a great deal and a chance to help promote LBHA and keeping our trails safe and in-tact. Please call or email Donna Kelly (donnak@calwisp.com or 916-956-6248 to reserve your preferred time slot. The cost of the Expo pass and parking must be collected prior to the Expo.

Please make checks payable to LBHA and mail to: LBHA at PO Box 2326, Loomis, CA 95650. Thanks!

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LOOMIS BASIN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association, founded in 1984, is a non-profit informational and awareness organization dedicated to the Arena at the Loomis Basin Community Park, Loomis Basin Trails, Traylor Ranch, and the preservation of the Rural Lifestyle

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I would like to contribute _____ to the Equestrian Fund or _____ to the Traylor Ranch Fund. Contributions to either Fund are Tax Deductible and will be used for construction and maintenance of the Arena at the Loomis Basin Community Park, and for Maintenance of Basin Trails OR for Maintenance and upkeep of the Traylor Ranch Nature Reserve.

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LOOMIS BASIN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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The Undersigned assumes the unavoidable risks inherent in all horse-related activities, including but not limited to bodily injury and physical harm to horse, rider and spectator. The Undersigned acknowledges that horse-related activities are dangerous and that horses themselves have unpredictable temperaments which can sometimes cause injury. The Undersigned acknowledges that even the most experienced horse event sponsor, participant or horse owner cannot predict how each individual horse will react in a variety of situations and cannot guarantee my safety. THEREFORE, BY SIGNING BELOW, I KNOWINGLY ASSUME THE UNAVOIDABLE RISKS INHERENT IN ALL HORSE-RELATED ACTIVITIES, WHETHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO BODILY INJURY AND PHYSICAL HARM TO HORSE, RIDER AND SPECTATOR, AND AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND MY SPOUSE, IF ANY:

1. I HEREBY RELEASE AND DISCHARGE LOOMIS BASIN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION ("LBHA"), THE LBHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ALL LBHA OFFICERS AND INDIVIDUAL CLUB MEMBERS AND THEIR AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, OR REPRESENTATIVES, AS WELL AS PLACER COUNTY, (HEREINAFTER COLLECTIVELY KNOWN AS "RELEASEES") FROM ALL ACTIONS, CLAIMS OR DEMANDS I MAY NOW OR HEREAFTER HAVE FROM INJURY, DEATH OR DAMAGE RESULTING FROM MY PARTICIPATION IN ANY HORSE-RELATED ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY LBHA, AT LOOMIS BASIN HORSEMEN'S ARENA OR AT ANY OTHER LOCATION.

2. I also 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 must have materially affected his settlement with the debtor."

5. I agree that I will DEFEND, INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS Releasees against all claims, demands, and causes of action, including court costs and actual attorney's fees, arising from any proceeding or lawsuit brought against them due to any act done by me, or brought by me or for my benefit.

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Next Meeting

JUNE LBHA MEETING - JUNE 20 Traylor Ranch Nature Walk 6:00 pm

JULY LBHA MEETING - JUNE 20 To be announced. Possibly at the LBHA Arena.

We'd love to hear from our members about what they'd like to see or hear about at any upcoming meetings. Please email us with your ideas. All are welcome!



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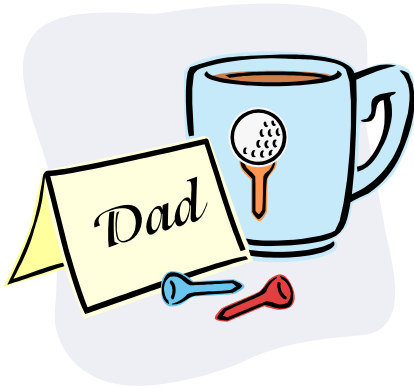
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From the Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association

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http://www.garlic.com/~lbha/NeedToRenewJune_December11.pdf

ABOUT LBHA

The Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association founded in 1984 is a non-profit 501 (C) 3 information and awareness organization dedicated to the South Placer County Trails, Traylor Ranch, the Arena at the Loomis Basin Community Park and the Preservation of the Rural Lifestyle.

Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association

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We're on the Web!

~~See us at~~

www.garlic.com/~lbha

Get Info on

- Trails
- The Arena at the Park
- Meetings
- Clinics
- Traylor Ranch
- LBHA Horseshow

