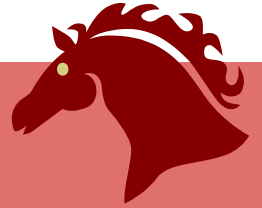


# MAU MONTHLY

Newsletter of the Mounted Assistance Unit for the California State Parks

Volume Number III

Issue Number 8



August 2010

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JoDean Nicolette, President

How's your summer? Mine has been busy! We've been out there riding quite a bit, and camping at the various wonderful locations we have in our area. Lots of snake and wildlife encounters, so ride with care!

Of course we have all heard about some other encounters in our parks and open spaces. Please remember we are out there as agents of good will, and if you can, spread the word about sharing our trails. Greeting fellow users goes a long way toward positive interactions. You are role-models for other park visitors.

Read on to find out more about how important you all are out there, your fellow members, events, and information to aid in your safety. If you have any new MAU news, share it with me so that I can get it out there. We all love hearing your stories. Thanks to Shar for the great REACH info.

As always, ride safe and well.

JoDean

## MAU TO THE RESCUE!

MAUs Marci Cook and Megan Cassarotti earned their patches last month when they responded to a seriously injured equestrian at Shiloh Regional Park. The rider's horse became alarmed and out of control, causing the rider to fall. She sustained a significant helmet impact, and lost consciousness. MAUs Cook and Cassarotti activated Emergency Medical Services and an ambulance arrived in minutes, transporting the injured equestrian to Memorial Hospital. She is doing well and riding again. Thanks to both Marci and Megan for their calm heads and quick thinking. Whether you are educating, informing, role-modelling, or rescuing, you are all doing great work out there, keep it up!

## COMMUNICATION WITH PARK VISITORS ON TOUCHY TOPICS

Seems like lately the topic of bikes and multi-user interactions has come up quite a bit. We'd like to remind you that our job as service providers in the park is to educate and inform, not politicize or promote

conflict. When you get the chance, remind visitors how lucky we are to have such a great multi-use system, and advocate for friendly, tolerant interactions. Remind folks that most interactions are friendly and polite. If you are approached with recounts of incidents, include them in your reports, but also encourage the visitor to go through the appropriate channels. Visitors who want to report incidents can call Annadel State Park directly at 707-539-3911.

Member of the  
month

Get to know your fellow MAUs!

August Member: **POACHER**



AKA: Highland Poacher

Breed: Irish Draft TB Cross/ Irish Warmblood

Age: 15 years old

Coloring: Bay, star, thin stripe, 2 rear white socks

Escorts: Greer Geiger

Member since: 2009

Discipline: Eventing, Fox

Hunting, Hunter Pace, Trail

Poacher loves: Surf! He heads straight for the waves; Rolling in the mud, and making sure his mane and tail are covered.

From POACHER: I am a guy of my own mind and I let you know it. Morning time is pasture time...if we are not heading to the pasture then what's your problem? I am not a big "huggy poo," but I will sometimes invite a scratch between the ears. If I see others are getting some attention I will wander over to see what I am missing out on.

I am big and I know it. I want to be in front. I will give it my all when there is another horse present as I am a "competitor at heart." Point me at the jump and we are over!

I am a patient "big brother" to younger or more insecure horses, and have a calming effect. I also make a great "battering ram." Connie Arthur has used me to "encourage" horses through water obstacles when training for Cross Country. I am not afraid of much. I can be pretty laid back when I am not "in competition" with another horse.

I also like loping up hill and Greer is learning to like sitting it. I pony my "little brother" Seychelle with Greer and we will trot out together as a threesome when we are in open

space like on a fire road.... that has been great fun!! Seychelle and I scratch each other's back for fun in the pasture.

## SUGARLOAF RIDGE TRAIL OPATE

Trails are open at Sugarloaf Ridge, but the some of the user-designation signs have been stolen. Bicycles are not allowed on Brushy Peaks, Red Mountain, and Vista Trails. If you are patrolling, please educate users regarding the regulations. If you encounter any problems, do not engage in conflict, just let the Rangers know. Ride safe!

## RIDERS' READ

Boone's Lick by Larry McMurtry. 2002: Pocket Books: NY, NY).

Boone's Lick is the story of the Cecil family as they travel from Boone's Lick, Missouri to the western frontier. The Cecils set out in search of their father, who has taken off to pursue his own life and fortune. The story is narrated by the Cecil family teen, fifteen year old Shay. The Cecil women have some real drive and character, and are fun to get to know. You'll also enjoy the cameo by Wild Bill Hickock! For both horse and mule-lovers, this book is a compelling, quick read.

## REVIEW OF PATROL PROCEDURE

A reminder to veterans and more info to new members: If you plan on patrolling, you need to let us know in advance. You can either email Anna Lincoln the month before to get on the schedule ([buckskingold@yahoo.com](mailto:buckskingold@yahoo.com)),

or call Jack London the day before (707-938-5216). When you start your patrol, call into Norcom dispatch at 916-358-1300 to let them know you will be out there. Please remember to let them know when you are done. This is for your safety. Don't forget to file your reports!

## REACH HELICOPTER

### INSURANCE INFO

Thanks to Sharmaine Ege

The REACH for Life program is an emergency air medical transport plan that coordinates with your insurance in order to prevent out of cost expenses for you in the event that you need an evacuation from a remote site. The cost is low, but may be well worth it. The coverage area is western Or, Ca, and Tx. For more information, visit [www.REACHair.com](http://www.REACHair.com). You can join under the Backcountry Horsemen designation.

## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Fall Horse Testing:

September 18<sup>th</sup>. Saddled and ready at 10am at the Spring Lake Parking Lot.

Play Day: October 16<sup>th</sup>.

Saddled and ready at 9am. Rincon Riders Arena

Fall Membership Meeting:

November 13<sup>th</sup>. SCDRC 5:30 for dinner, then meeting to follow.

