

# NEWSLETTER



## Presidents Message

It was an amazing success!!! Our Scott Benjamin event was well received and we continue to receive kind words regarding his lecture about our wonderful Arabian horses. I only could have wished that the event were on a weekend, I am confident that we would have had many more participants. I feel very satisfied that our club has given back a little to our community and that our continued efforts to do these types of events can only be a win, win situation. I have spoken with Scott and he has agreed to return to do another event for us. This time it will be a "hands on" event during the day and on a weekend. We have the beginning of June or the fall of 2011 as our target dates. I would love to hear your thoughts on this matter.

November was AHA convention. Those of us who have been to many, many conventions probably feel the same...."same stuff, just a different year." I will say that I walked away with a feeling that AHA is splintering and I believe we will see some major changes in the next few years. I would love to discuss this with you all at our next meeting.

Our Christmas Party on December 12<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. We honored Harold Groom for all of his incredible efforts over these many, many years. It was so wonderful to see him smile. Lori Cook presented Harold with a small token of our appreciation and she did a wonderful job with her presentation. The location was perfect, the food excellent and the company was the best ever. It was a good time had by all that attended. We look forward to next year. A very special thank you to Roberta Dixon for putting this all together for our club, she did a wonderful job.

One last month left before the New Year begins.... I am still amazed that time can move so quickly. The Holidays are upon us, time to get that tree up, do the shopping, plan the Christmas Dinner and so on and so on, are we stressed yet!! Give yourselves a break, lets concentrate on visiting those friends that mean so much to us, let's take the kids and grand babies out to lunch and shopping, let's get in the car one cold evening, grab a hot chocolate or coffee and search for those Christmas lights that make us smile. It takes so little to make Christmas mean so much and it has nothing to do with fighting the crowds to buy gifts for those that already have so much.

Remember the times that just getting together to bake those cookies and trim that tree with those that we love, sing a few Christmas carols is what Christmas is all about. Be happy my dear friends and remember a month from now it will all be over, the only thing left will be those moments that warmed our hearts and filled our souls with love and the joy of this blessed season. May God Bless you all and I pray that this is the best Holiday season ever, remembering that we have all made such a difference in each other lives.

Sandy Markoff-President

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## BOARD MEETINGS

**2nd Wednesday of the month**

**7 PM**

**Star Restaurant, Cotati CA**

## Mark your Calendars

**53rd Annual**

**GGAHA Class A**

**Arabian & Half Arabian Horse Show**

**March 25,26, 27th 2011**

Congratulations

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makes it all happen."*

*Robert Dixon*

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*Jesse  
Saldana*



## MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

### “Elaine Kerrigan”

#### UNPRECEDENTED SWEEP OF THE 2010 ARABIAN SPORT HORSE NATIONALS BY FATHER & DAUGHTER

The 8th annual Arabian Horse Association Sport Horse National Show was held September 22-25th in Nampa, Idaho. KB Omega Fahim+++// and daughter KB Jull Fahim+//, swept the open FEI dressage division. This is the first time a father and daughter have dominated the entire open FEI dressage competition of this national championship show. Fourteen year old KB Omega Fahim+++// won Grand Prix and Intermediate II, while eleven year old KB Jull Fahim+// captured Intermediate I and Prix St. Georges. People were on the edge of their seats for the final Grand Prix test to be performed on the last day of the championships. Omega, under his exceptional trainer and rider, Chelsey Sibley, completed this monumental task with grace and ease. During the evening’s special ceremony, both horses were presented and awarded as champions of each test. Jull also achieved the open FEI high point of the show.

Approximately 400 horses displayed their athletic abilities at the Idaho Horse Park. The Sport Horse National Championship Show featured 90 classes in several divisions that included in hand, hunter, jumper, dressage and driving, to name a few. Horses from forty-one states and two Canadian provinces came to compete in this national event. The prominent dressage judges were Marlene Schneider, Brian Ross, Jacqueline Lindberg and Sandra Chohany. Sport Horse Nationals is the only single-breed sport horse event in the nation offered just for Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian horses registered with the Arabian Horse Association or the Canadian Arabian Horse Registry.

The breeder of Omega and Jull, Elaine Kerrigan, has devoted the past 35+ years creating these amazing Arabian sport horse athletes. According to Chris Bailey, “Not only is Omega amazing but he also produces the perfect get; kind, smart and athletic.” I have not seen one Omega offspring that I would not want.”

Arabian stallion KB Omega Fahim+++// is owned by breeder Elaine Kerrigan of Kerrigan Bloodstock in Eureka, CA and Half-Arabian KB Jull Fahim+// is owned by Chris Bailey, also of Eureka. Both horses are trained and shown by Chelsey Sibley of Sky Ranch, in Sonora, CA.



## Holiday Party Pictures



**Harold Groom receiving a GGAHA Vest, Certificate for all of his many years of Service to GGAHA and the Arabian Horse. Presented by Lori Cook & Tami Groom Ferrero.**



**More photos  
will be  
coming soon.  
They will be  
posted  
online.**



## GGAHA YOUTH NEWS

*From GGAHA Youth Coordinator Patti Belanger*

*We wound down the summer with a game of miniature golf which the kids enjoyed. Patti thought the kids deserved some time for fun and games and treated them. We always have a great time on our "field trips" and enjoy the time we all spend together both at and away from the ranch.*

*Since summer time we have also enjoyed having "Circus Day" for riding lessons. This is always fun for the kids as they get to just relax and have a good time doing fun and interesting things with the horses and playing games on horseback. The kids get to let loose a little and not have to be so serious all the time. It also teaches them to relax which is so essential in their riding.*

*We have also had a Secretariat sleepover. We all went to see the movie and had Coldstone for dessert. Then we headed back to the barn to blanket and grain. And of course play a game of night time arena kickball. All the girls slept over in the loft of the party barn and had their riding lessons the next day.*

*In the next month or so we will have a large group of 20+ people that will be attending the Cavalia performance in San Francisco. Everyone is very excited to see it!*

*HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE FROM THE YOUTH OF GGAHA!*



*A sad note from PJB ARABIANS...we recently lost one of our good friends D/W Preciosa (Paloma) who belonged to our dear friend*

*Arlene Evans. She left our ranch in early July to go to a rehab facility and sadly she will never return to us. Most people that have seen or met Paloma remember her as she was a magnificent horse who achieved many accomplishments under the dutiful training of Patti Belanger showing in Hunter, Dressage, Sidesaddle and Arabian Costume. Arlene made a clean sweep in all her classes showing Paloma for the first time in Watsonville last year. Paloma will be greatly missed and our hearts go out to Arlene as well as her husband Hayden and daughter Caitlin.*

## CLUB WEBSITE NEWS

**Golden Gate has a newly redesigned Web Site.**

**Visit [www. Goldengatearabians.com](http://www.Goldengatearabians.com)**

Our new website is being maintained by Tammara Morgan of [www.spinninghorsesdesigns.com](http://www.spinninghorsesdesigns.com) If you would like to submit anything for the site or have any ideas please email them to me at [Debwiegmann@comcast.net](mailto:Debwiegmann@comcast.net)

Golden Gate is now on Twitter and Facebook. Look for the links at [www.Goldengatearabians.com](http://www.Goldengatearabians.com) and follow us for News, Events, Classifieds, Etc.



The image shows the Facebook logo, which consists of a blue rectangular box with the word "facebook" written in white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

**2011 ClubTrail Ride Schedule Coming Soon**

**For Information on any of these rides please contact Robin Everett at [Robin\\_Everett@yahoo.com](mailto:Robin_Everett@yahoo.com)**

**THANK YOU Robin for being our Trail Boss**





GGAHA Members

I would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I apologize for the Newsletter being a little late this time, had technical problems.

See you all in the New Year.

Sincerely

#### AHA CONVENTION

This year's AHA annual convention was held in Orlando, FL from November 17 – 21, 2010. President Sandy Markoff, Roberta Dixon, Debbie Wiegmann and Kelly Kenneally attended as delegates representing GGAHA. This was a fantastic opportunity to gather with Arabian horse enthusiasts, friends and professionals for industry education, and AHA business. 43 Resolutions were brought to be voted on by the delegates, 36 were presented and 33 were approved. You can find all of these on the Web site at [www.Arabianhorses.org](http://www.Arabianhorses.org)

2011 Convention will be in Vancouver, Canada.

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# GGAHA Trail Report

## World Equestrian Games

Several members of the club traveled to Louisville, Kentucky in September to see parts of the World Equestrian Games. I was lucky enough to be accepted as a volunteer on the road crew for the US Endurance team. It was an exciting experience!

International endurance is very different from the standard, back-yard endurance I generally enjoy. I ride with cattle bag and pommel bag and lots of stuff clipped to my saddle. I carry an Easy Boot and snacks for my horse and myself even when I'm lucky enough to have crew. Vet checks are generally several hours apart and every opportunity is taken to let the horses graze along the trail and rest at the checks.

The international riders were more stripped down. Some carried sponges, but most had nothing but their tack. Because they had a minimum weight requirement (165 pounds), some had extra weights fastened carefully to their saddles. The horses were all prequalified for the 100 mile ride. They had ridden shorter rides and met qualifications set out by the FEI. Finally, they had obtained their Certificate of Capability, which was a demonstration that they could complete a 100 mile ride in 13 hours, 20 minutes or less.

The Americans fielded 5 riders. Four of these were designated as team riders. The team medals would go to the teams with the fastest total finishing times of the first three members of the team. Team members could also ride for individual medals, as did the fifth rider.

For this event, all of the official vet checks were held at one central location. We had a large crew available there, including veterinarians and farriers. There were no official vet checks out on the trail, but we did have "fly-bys." That's where the road crew came in.

There were approximately 30 of us on the road crew. We were all issued tee shirts and bright pink ball caps. Our riders couldn't miss us! There were five locations on the trail where crewing was allowed (four, actually – we went to one twice). We had one allowed vehicle per horse. Since the crew at the vet checks wanted to keep a vehicle in case of emergency, that meant that all 30 of us had to pile into and out of four vehicles. We also had buckets, water, food and other sundry items.

Our job was to cool the horses and keep the riders moving. We drove to a location and set up buckets of water within an allowed space. There were FEI stewards there to make sure crewing only took place in the allowed areas. As the riders cantered into the crewing area, we had runners whose job it was to job alongside the horse, pouring water over the horse's back, or handing bottles of water to the riders. The riders would drink some water and pour the rest of it on the horse's withers and neck. Others of us (this was my job) were transporters, who carried full water bottles to the runners. Emptied bottles and scoops were dropped and transporters or others picked them up as rapidly as possible. Ideally, the horses never stopped and were back out on the trail within a minute or two. Since horses from several countries could come in at the same time and the crewing area was shared, there were some hectic situations! After all of our riders were through, we packed everything up and drove to the next spot, where we did it all again.

Throughout the ride we kept in touch with the crew at the vet check area through tweets and texts. That way we learned when our riders were pulled. Yes, we didn't finish everyone. In fact, we saw only two of our five riders cross the finish line. Heather Reynolds, from Northern California, rode with the front runners all day and crossed the finish line in fourth place. Unfortunately, her horse was off at the final trot out so she did not earn the completion. I did learn that a member of the UAE team, with whom she had been riding, was so impressed with her horse that he bought him.

The rider we did finish was Deborah Reich, who finished nicely in 18<sup>th</sup> place. We all cheered her across the finish line and held our breath as she went through the final vet check until we saw the green light that she had earned her completion.

Deborah is a rider just getting started in international endurance. Her horse is a 2002 grey mare registered in the AERC as DJB Juniper. That tells us that she is a Darolyn Butler horse, from Texas. Her AHA registration is Juniper RJW, by Deste Onismus, out of Deste Touche. Juniper tried her first ride in late '07, but was pulled. She would have been five then, which is the minimum age for an AERC horse to enter a 50 mile ride. That was Juniper's last AERC pull, and she has since completed 1,000 miles of AERC sanctioned rides. Some FEI rides are dual sanctioned by FEI and AERC, and since Juniper is an international horse she has done many more rides that are not included in the 1,000 mile AERC total.

This was an awesome experience that I would not have missed. The next WEG is to be held in Normandy in 2014. It's on my calendar, and I'll be volunteering again for the road crew – or anywhere I'm needed.



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*Carol has trained and shown many horses, mostly Arabians, so has a very deep understanding of the sensitivity of any horse.*

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*Take advantage of the amazing opportunity to train your horse with Carol, whose kind and patient teaching skills can help you with your horse.*

Carol can train at her facility or can travel to yours.

Please contact her at her stable, 707-829-2804, or [www.Applecreekstables.com](http://www.Applecreekstables.com).

*Carol also teaches lessons, her place or yours and does evaluations!*  
*She loves working with the entire family and has taught many mother/daughter teams.*

**CLASSIFIEDS / ETC**

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RSD Spiritrose (Rosie)

Spiritrose is an 8 year old purebred Arabian mare. She is a VERY experienced trail horse and has been started in bridleless training. This mare is as sound as they come and has fantastic feet that are barefoot. She gets along wonderfully with all horses, loves to please, and is a great, FAST, playday/gymkhana horse for riders of all levels. Rosie is a Khemosabi+++++ grand-daughter; she was sired by Red Hawk(23 championships or reserves and full brother to RSD Dark Victory) and is out of Kamasi Sachet (Khemosabi+++++ X Gavadraff). She's 14.2 hands tall. Her conformation is as great as her desposition! \$7000.00

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**March 25,26,27 2010  
Judges Sue Meyer & Barbara  
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Iris - 3/4 Arab mare, 9 yrs. professionally trained, been shown hunter pleasure. Been started over fences. Sound, very pretty, loads. hauls, clips. Very sweet and personable and an excellent mover. Good home only. Contact Donna Waggoner 707-236-5952 or Nancy Heilbron 415-435-6526. View her on video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mlRaLj>



FOR SALE: Sampson 1/2 Arab/Saddlebred gelding 13 years, 15.3 h - English or Western - .been shown dressage - professional dressage training. He is First level working on Third level. Sound, very intelligent with a pretty head - very good looking. Loads, hauls, clips, ties, no vices. Comfortable to ride, Intermediate rider. Price negotiable. good home only. Owner/breeder Nancy Heilbron Noah Arabians.-415-435-6526



## CLUB INFO:

Anyone who has an email address and would like to be kept current of GGAHA and other activities, please email your email address to [Debwiegmann@comcast.net](mailto:Debwiegmann@comcast.net) so that I can put you on the list.

Also join the GGAHA Yahoo User Group at [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/ggaha?yguid=73940820](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/ggaha?yguid=73940820)

GGAHA by-laws are published and available on the internet. Visit [www.goldengatearabians.com](http://www.goldengatearabians.com)

GGAHA Newsletter is available online at: [www.goldengatearabians.com](http://www.goldengatearabians.com)

## MEMBERS & OTHER IMPORTANT WEB SITE LINKS

**Arabian Horse Association:** [www.arabianhorses.org](http://www.arabianhorses.org)

**GGAHA:** [www.goldengatearabians.com](http://www.goldengatearabians.com)

**US Equestrian:** [www.equestrian.org](http://www.equestrian.org)

**Bay Equestrian:** [www.bayequest.com](http://www.bayequest.com)

**Alexandra Arabians:** [www.alexandraarabians.com](http://www.alexandraarabians.com)  
(newly updated)

**Bishop Lane Farm:** [www.bishoplane.com](http://www.bishoplane.com)

**Alioto-Reiss Arabians:** [www.extendinc.com/alioto-reiss](http://www.extendinc.com/alioto-reiss)

**Region 3AHA:** [www.arabianhorses3.org](http://www.arabianhorses3.org)

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[www.snipinichorseproducts.com](http://www.snipinichorseproducts.com)

**Dougherty Arabians:** [www.doughertyarabians.com](http://www.doughertyarabians.com)

**Change:** [www.sonomachangeprogram.com](http://www.sonomachangeprogram.com)

## Deepest Sympathies

The Arabian Horse World has lost a few of its finest these past few months.

Deepest Sympathies to the Lacey Family on the loss of Murrel Lacey, The Tone Family on the loss of Marge Tone and one of Golden Gate's founding members Mario Ghilotti. You will all be missed but never forgotten you have all left a Legacy behind.

From the Republic Monitor News, 11/10/2010  
Mr. Murrel Van Lacey, 76 passed always on October 31, 2010, in St. John's Hospital, Springfield, MO, of natural causes. He was born July 17, 1934, in Jerico Springs, the son of Herbert and Anna Mae (Stroer) Lacey. Murrel served his country in the United States Army. He was owner of Lacey's Arabian Center in Alamo, CA and was an honored and revered lifetime horseman and breeder of Arabian horses. Murrel loved to share his love of horses, and would give the shirt off his back to those in need. He attended the Sac River Cowboy Church. His parents and brothers, Don Mast, Lonnie Mast, Jessie Mast, Frances Mast, Alvin Mast, Bob Lacey and his wife Sheri, Garden Valley, CA.; a daughter, LeAnn Lacey-Ramirez and her husband Cipriano, Republic, MO.; three grandchildren, Jessie Lacey, LaDonna Hatfield; sisters, Bonnie Krenning, Wichita, KA., and Carol Lacey, of the state of FL.; and many other relatives and close friends.

Golden Gate Arabian Horse Association



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