

EQUINE News

MURIETA EQUESTRIAN CENTER & WEST COAST EQUINE FOUNDATION

FALL/WINTER 2015

MEC AND WCEF STEP UP TO HELP ENSURE ADEQUATE CARE FOR HORSES AFFECTED BY THE BUTTE AND VALLEY WILDFIRES

During September's devastating Butte Fire, the Murieta Equestrian Center and the West Coast Equine Foundation volunteered resources and initiated fundraising in support of the UC Davis Fire Disaster Fund and local community members who also stepped in to help. The goal of all involved was to help the horses and other animals affected by the blaze receive necessary care and a safe place to stay.

Carol Ward, owner of the Murieta Equestrian Center, volunteered the Equestrian

Center's facilities. She adamantly stated, "No horse will be turned away from the Murieta Equestrian Center," even when the facility was in the midst of two of its largest horse shows of the year. During one of the shows, the El Rancho Futurity, MEC and WCEF, with the help of the show's exhibitors, raised \$14,000 within just a few days to help with relief efforts.

Donations raised were given to the UC Davis Fire Disaster Fund as well as the local community members who opened their homes and hearts to displaced animals. In addition, Shady Schneider, representing the Murieta Equestrian Center, delivered supplies and gas cards to ground zero evacuation centers.

The UC Davis Fire Disaster Fund provided veterinary care at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital through its ambulatory

services to animals injured in both the Butte and the Valley fires. UC Davis veterinarians also worked around the clock performing search and rescue missions, and caring for injured animals in the fire zones.

Center for Equine Health Director Dr. Claudia Sonder, went ranch to ranch looking for animals that had been left behind. Driven by the desire to help their community, Dr. Sonder and the UC Davis veterinarians came together to reveal their own humanity in service to the animals and people in the region.

To learn more about disaster preparedness for horse owners, please visit: www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/ceh/disaster_preparedness/index.cfm.



Lisa Reese (L) and Erica Rubalcaba (R) presenting a donation check to Dr. Sonder (C), UC Davis Fire Disaster Fund (above). One of the evacuation centers taking in displaced horses (above right). The Butte Fire, 2015 (far right).



PLEASE JOIN US!

MURIETA EQUESTRIAN CENTER

2016 CALENDAR

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Dates may change. Please check our website for an updated schedule of events:
www.murietaequinecenter.com

Date	Event	Date	Event
January 1-3	Redwood Empire Cutting Horse Association	June 24	WCEF Golf Tournament
January 15-17	Border Terrier Club of the Redwoods	June 24-26	Cowboy Dressage World Summer Gathering and Show
January 22-24	West Coast Reining Horse Association Schooling Reining	June 30-July 3	P.C.Q.H.A. Summer Celebration
January 29-31	Premier Dressage Show	July 10-16	Region 3 Arabian Championships
February 4-7	West Coast Reining Horse Association Affiliate Show #1	July 29-31	Gold-N-Grand Summer
February 10-14	Back to Basics AQHA Circuit Dirt & Diamonds NRCHA Derby	August 3-7	State 4-H Horse Classic
February 19-21	Clements Club Cutting	August 6-7	Karen Grimm Memorial All Appaloosa Show
February 20-21	Cowboy Dressage World Winter Gathering and Show	August 26-28	Murieta Mule Classic
February 24-28	Northern Winter Classic III	September 1-4	Sacramento Morgan Horse Show Cowboy Dressage Circuit Show #4
March 2-6	Northern Winter Classic IV	September 3-4	SJPHC Farnam Fall Color Challenge & All Breed Horse Show
March 12	Sacramento County 4-H Silver Show #1	September 8-11	Cowboy Dressage World Fall Gathering
March 18-20	Golden State Dressage	September 10-18	El Rancho Futurity & Foothill Fiesta Cutting
March 24-27	Murieta Spring Hunter/Jumper Classic	September 17-18	The Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Club of America
April 1-3	Gold-N-Grand Spring All Breed Open Show	Sept 27-Oct 2	Sacramento International Horse Show Welcome Week
April 7-10	Golden State Dressage	October 4-9	Sacramento International Horse Show FEI World Cup
April 14-17	Arabian Horse Association of Northern California	October 19-23	WCRHA Year End Show
April 21-24	El Rancho Spring Classic	October 19-23	Downunder Horsemanship Clinic Dale Cunningham
April 23-24	California Classic Shetland Pony & Miniature Horse Club Area VII Show	October 26-30	Let's Show Halloween Championship
April 28-May 1	California Paint Horse Association Show of the Year	November 2-6	Murieta Autumn Classic Horse & Hound Finals
April 29-May 1	Mini Bull Terrier Club of America	November 25-27	Portuguese Water Dog Club of Northern CA
April 30-May 1	Points West Appaloosa Horse Show	November 26	AHANC Thanksgiving Weekend One Day Show
May 7-8	San Joaquin Paint Horse Club	December 2-4	Sacramento Dog Training Club Agility Trial
May 20-22	MEC Schooling Reining	Dec 29-Jan 1	Two Rivers Agility Club of Sacramento
June 1-5	WCRHA NRHA Affiliate Circuit Show Shoot Out – Affiliate 3&4		
June 17-19	Golden State Dressage		

“When your horse follows you without being asked, when he rubs his head on yours, and when you look at him and feel a tingle down your spine... you know you are loved.”

- John Lyons



7200 Lone Pine Drive, Rancho Murieta, CA 95683
916.354.2119 office
916.354.2127 fax
www.westcoastequinefoundation.org



Murieta Equestrian Center
7200 Lone Pine Drive, Rancho Murieta, CA 95683
916.985.7334 office
916.354.2638 fax
www.murietaequinecenter.com



West Coast Equine Foundation

Supporting equine education and therapeutic riding



The West Coast Equine Foundation (WCEF) supports programs and services with the philosophy that better education benefits horses, riders, and the community. “Being involved with horses is a healthy lifestyle, and particularly benefits our youth,” says Maryann Subbotin, WCEF Director. “It keeps them focused and productive, and teaches them broader levels of responsibility that will last them throughout life. Our mission includes promoting responsible horsemanship, and that includes preparing children to become responsible adults.”



westcoastequinefoundation.org



Murieta Equestrian Center

murietaequestriancenter.com

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THE
MURIETA
INN AND SPA

WCEF supports a variety of youth organizations, including 4-H Clubs and therapeutic riding programs, equine humane causes, and provides scholarships for students pursuing equine-related education such as animal science, horse husbandry, or veterinary medicine. WCEF provides \$25,000 to \$30,000 annually in scholarships, with recipients each receiving \$1,000 to \$2,000. Some scholarships are multi-year gifts, and one recent recipient is now a veterinarian.

Partnered with the U.C. Davis Center for Equine Health, WCEF conducts a Youth Horsemanship Challenge. This educational series, with junior and senior divisions, takes place at three horse shows per year at the Murieta Equestrian Center (MEC), California's premier equestrian facility and WCEF's headquarters. Challenge participants take part in a riding competition, a take-back-to-the-barn written test, a lecture, and another written test after the lecture.

WCEF's financial support comes from MEC's own El Rancho cutting horse shows, other horse shows held at MEC, special projects, proceeds from the MEC-based Cares and Whoas Glamour Ranch boutique featuring unique equestrian items and staffed by volunteers, and an annual golf tournament. Donations are gratefully accepted and may be dedicated to scholarships or a specific equine cause.

CHECKING IN:
**THE MURIETA
 INN AND
 SPA BRINGS
 CONVENIENCE
 AND LUXURY TO
 RANCHO MURIETA**

The foundation is poured and walls are going up at The Murieta Inn and Spa on Murieta Drive across from the Rancho Murieta Plaza. Completion is scheduled for late summer 2016, and we are already looking forward to taking your reservations!

The Inn will open with a total of 83 private king and double-queen rooms, plus family suites and adjoining rooms. Following shortly thereafter, 24 three bedroom extended stay villas with full kitchens will be available. Uniquely and artistically designed, the Inn will be fully equipped to accommodate all of your needs during your visit.

Book a massage after a long day in the saddle. Bring your swimsuit for a dip in the pool. The Inn's resort-inspired amenities include a full service salon and spa, plus a workout facility, pool, Jacuzzi, and lockers – all of which are available during your stay or by the day.

Meet at The Gate! Our full bar and restaurant will offer classic cocktails, regional and local wine, craft beer and a creative menu highlighting seasonal fruits and vegetables from our own A-Ward Organic Farm.

At the Murieta Inn you can also hold an intimate private dinner, a post-horse show party or your dream wedding. Our professional event planning team is ready to assist should you need a helping hand. The Inn offers more than 3,000 square feet of indoor banquet space and thousands of square feet of landscaped outdoor space. And our event menu offers full-service catering.

In addition, going here and there from the Inn is a cinch. Our transportation fleet includes hotel and airport shuttle vans, hotel golf carts, car rental pick up and drop off, and private charter bookings at the Rancho Murieta Airport. You can even arrange a fun group tour of popular El Dorado and Amador county wineries.

Please visit <http://themurietainn.com> often for updates and money-saving early bird specials. Watch our progress and then be among the first to experience the luxuries and amenities of The Murieta Inn and Spa.

2015
**EC EVENT
 HIGHLIGHTS**

Gold-N-Grand Summer Horse Show

The summer Gold-N-Grand is always a hit with exhibitors and spectators alike. This year, 350 first place buckles were awarded, along with nine championship saddles that went home with division winners. Congratulations everyone!



Senior Youth Challenge contestant Kelly Vanderwerf showcases her team's horse for the Anatomy Challenge.

This year a fun new component was added to the annual Youth Horsemanship Challenge: an Anatomy Challenge that brought out everyone's creativity. Participants were divided up into teams and then learned about their horses from the inside out by painting a horse's anatomy on their horses!

This was definitely a fun learning exercise for all who took part. The goal of the Youth Horsemanship Challenge is to promote horse health, the humane treatment of horses, and horsemanship knowledge.

The show also offered fun events for the entire family, from a barn exhibitor party to a spaghetti feed dinner, snow cones, root beer floats, and even a water slide.

El Rancho Futurity & Foothill Fiesta

The highlight of this year's El Rancho Futurity & Foothill Fiesta was the world record set during the Mercuria/NCHA World Series. On Saturday, September 12, three-time NCHA/Mercuria Champion and \$7.3 million lifetime winner Matt Gaines, riding Special Nu Baby, won the Open division and tied the cutting world record score of 234.



Mercuria NCHA World Series Open division winner Matt Gaines rides Special Nu Baby to a cutting world record during the El Rancho Futurity.

The El Rancho Futurity draws the nation's top cutting horses and trainers with nearly \$450,000 in payouts. Special events included the Foothill Fiesta, an evening championship competition; a dinner and live music; Cowboys and Canvases Art and Wine; arena beach volleyball; and the Youth Horsemanship Challenge.

Sacramento International Horse Show

Entries in this show read like a who's who of the show jumping world. On the show agenda was six full days of show jumping, clinics led by noted riders, special events and spectacular entertainment. Enthusiastic spectators cheered on horses and riders as they soared over head-high fences in classes that included the Longines Grand Prix of Sacramento, a World Cup and Thermal Million qualifying event.



Let's Show Halloween Championships

If you've never seen an entire showgrounds decorated with Halloween spirit, this is the show to see! With a long history of frequent sellouts, the Let's Show Halloween horse show offers five days of hunter/jumper classes topped off with costume classes, barn trick-or-treating, and fun entertainment! If you missed this year's show, make sure to join us in October 2016 for a spooky good time!



What is happening in 2016? Keep your eyes on the www.murietaequestriancenter.com website for dates and information about upcoming events. Check back often as new events are added throughout the year.

THE WEST COAST EQUINE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - NOW IN ITS EIGHTH YEAR!

Since its inception in 2007, the West Coast Equine Foundation (WCEF) Scholarship Program has awarded more than \$159,000 to college students majoring in equine-related fields. The scholarship/grant program is funded through private donations; special events, such as the annual Charity WCEF Golf Tournament; facility sponsorships; special projects; and horse shows, including the El Rancho Futurity and El Rancho Spring Classic.

If you would like more information about the scholarship program, including eligibility and application deadlines, please visit www.westcoastequinefoundation.org. Donations to the program can be made by visiting the "Donate" page of the website or by sending a check made out to the West Coast Equine Foundation:

WCEF
Scholarship Program
7200 Lone Pine Drive
Rancho Murieta, CA 95683

Join us in Congratulating our 2015-2016 Scholarship Winners

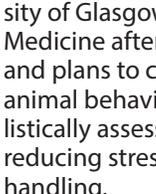


Amy McBirney - Amy is no stranger to the West Coast Equine Foundation's Scholarship Program - this is her third year receiving a scholarship! Amy completed her pre-veterinary

studies at California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, and has transferred to UC Davis to begin her veterinary education. Amy has always loved horses and she shares her love by volunteering at a therapeutic riding program for special needs children.



Andrea J. Frie - Andrea is currently attending California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, where she is minoring in Equine Science. She will be attending the University of Glasgow's School of Veterinary Medicine after one more year at Cal Poly, and plans to complete her residency in animal behavior. Her focus will be holistically assessing patient wellness and reducing stress during treatment and handling.



Alyssa Sullivan - Alyssa is currently attending California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, where she is studying pre-veterinary medicine. Alyssa has a

love and passion for horses, and not only did she participate in rodeo throughout

high school, she was also heavily involved in FFA. After graduating from Cal Poly, she plans on attending Texas A & M to obtain a doctorate in veterinary medicine.



Kelsie Kennicutt - Kelsie was always involved in equine 4-H and FFA while growing up and her experiences taught her skills she will continue to use in her future career.

She is currently attending Cosumnes River College with plans to transfer to UC Davis to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science.



Sierra Mieko Temple - Sierra is in her fourth year as a pre-veterinary student at California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo. She has been accepted into Glasgow's

School of Veterinary Medicine, but is also considering veterinary schools here in the United States. Her ultimate goal is to work in an equine hospital as an internal medicine or reproductive specialist.



Caden Walsh Farquer - Caden is currently a freshman at California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, where he is beginning his studies in Agriculture

Engineering. His interest stems from California's current water shortage crisis, and his goal is to learn and to develop

new technology that will enable farmers to use water more effectively and efficiently while improving livestock and horse feed. Caden has been involved in numerous rodeo associations, rifle shooting, and sports during his high school career, all while maintaining a 4.1 GPA.



Brooke Niederhauser - Brooke attends California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, where she is majoring in Animal Science and minoring in Equine Science. Her

main interests include beef and equine businesses, and she plans on concentrating on both ranching and horse training while at Cal Poly. During her high school years, Brooke was active in FFA where she served as a Chapter Reporter. She was also a member of the California High School Rodeo Association, District 3.



Emelie Roche - Emelie is currently in her senior year at California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, where she is majoring in Animal Science and minoring

in Equine Science. Her lifelong love of horses has fueled her desire to become a large animal veterinarian. Outside of the classroom, Emelie dedicates much of her spare time to volunteering at a therapeutic riding center close to campus.

BUYING A HORSE?

Make the Most of Your Pre-Purchase Exam with these Vet-Recommendations

By Mark Christin, DVM, Gold Country Equine

You're excited! You've found a horse with all of the qualities you've been searching for. But before money changes hands or you start posting barn selfies on Facebook, protect yourself with a pre-purchase (pre-sale) exam carried out by a trusted veterinarian. Although no test or series of tests can guarantee long-term soundness or good health, pre-purchase exam results that take the horse's history, its conformation, current health and current soundness into consideration, can help you make an informed decision about the horse's suitability for you and your riding goals.

Pre-purchase exams are fact-finding missions that can leave everyone involved elated, disappointed, angry, relieved or a combination of all four emotions. The actual exam process varies greatly among clinicians based on the horse's intended use, its current level of training, its age and even your future plans for resale. Know too that the cost of a pre-purchase exam also varies and can range from hundreds to thousands of dollars depending on the diagnostic tests you and your vet consider necessary. And there's your comfort level to consider too. Do you want to know your horse's tiniest flaws, or is the big picture good enough for you?



Let's Get this Party Started

The two most important pieces of "equipment" you can bring to the pre-purchase exam are an open mind and the ability of the veterinarian you've enlisted to do the exam. In addition, open communication between you and your veterinarian is essential to the success of the exam. My role as a veterinarian is to advise you about the physical advantages and disadvantages of the horse you're considering, and to relate to you my findings relevant to the short- and long-term use of the animal. A pre-purchase exam isn't a pass/fail test, but an assessment of the horse's suitability that, again, you can use when deciding whether or not to make the purchase.

That said, I have a list of pre-purchase exam do's and don'ts that I've compiled during years of performing pre-purchase exams. Doing your "do" diligence will help you help your veterinarian maximize your pre-purchase experience:

Pre-Purchase Exam Do's

1. Do find a veterinarian who is willing to talk openly to you and who can clearly explain and educate you about any abnormalities discovered during the exam. It's also critical that you find a vet who is experienced in the discipline in which you intend to ride your horse. Remember too, vets are busy! Your vet of choice might not be available at a moment's notice so it's helpful to stay in communication with him or her to better your odds that the exam can take place on the day you have in mind.
2. Do obtain the full health history of the horse in advance of the exam, paying close attention to previous lameness exams; joint or tendon sheath injections; and procedures such as stem cell therapy, IRAP (Interleukin-1 Receptor Antagonist Protein) or PRP (Platelet Rich Plasma) treatments, which are used to stimulate healing. All are indications of potentially serious joint and/or soft tissue injuries.
3. Do ask the horse's owner for past radiography (X-rays), MRIs or other diagnostics that have been performed.

ded Do's and Don'ts

4. Do a drug screen for anti-inflammatories if you've had the horse on trial for less than two weeks. Anti-inflammatories to look for include Phenylbutazone (bute), Banamine, Previcox and Ketophen.
5. Do ask for the horse's show history with results and take note of any long breaks. Was the horse injured? Or perhaps the owner was just away at college. Get the facts if you can.
6. Do listen to the horse's breathing at rest and while exercising. If you or your trainer note any irregularities, pass that information on to your vet. An exam of the horse's airway via an endoscope may be necessary to rule out lung problems.
7. Do have baseline radiographs taken of the horse's feet, hocks, fetlocks and stifles for review if the clinical phase of the exam goes well. Note: The clinical phase is the summation of all physical findings: Organ systems (heart, lungs, eyes, ears, skin, GI) palpation of limbs, and evaluation of movement (i.e. complete lameness exam).
8. Do consider baseline radiographs when purchasing a young horse not yet at his or her intended level of use. When a horse has not yet achieved his intended level of use, many subclinical findings have yet to become an issue. These often surface with increased stresses encountered with elevated work load. Many OCD* type lesions that present at a young age on radiographs will not cause lameness until the horse reaches a heightened level of performance.
9. Do consider having an ultrasound taken to rule out damage if any soft tissue (ligament or tendon) thickening or pain is noted during palpation.
10. Do be realistic. Understand the limitations of a pre-purchase exam. Even with a thorough exam, good quality radiographs, lab tests and other specialty diagnostics, your vet only sees the animal for a short period of time in a controlled environment. In the end, your trainer, your vet and any specialists brought in to assist are there to help you with your purchasing decision.

Pre-Purchase Exam Don'ts

1. Don't expect your vet to examine a horse that isn't halter broke, that is unfamiliar with lunging (on a line or free) or unwilling to trot in hand. In addition, make sure that the horse is comfortable having each of its legs lifted and flexed so that a flexion test can be given.
2. Don't set up a pre-purchase exam in a location where the ground is uneven; make sure a level surface is available with both hard and soft footing. It's very difficult to accurately evaluate soundness on uneven ground.
3. Don't present a horse that is showing signs of an infectious disease. Coughing, nasal discharge and fever are indications that the horse should be home resting, and not subjected to a stressful situation such as a pre-purchase exam.
4. Don't present a horse that is on any medications that could affect mentation or soundness. These include steroidal anti-inflammatories including Dexamethasone or Prednisone; anti-histamines such as Tri-Hist, Hydroxyzine or Benadryl; or non-steroidal anti-inflammatories including Phenylbutazone, Banamine, Equioxx or Ketophen.
5. Don't present a horse that is overdue for shoeing. Unbalanced or long hooves promote lameness and uneven strides. On the other hand, don't bring a horse that has just been shod. Sole soreness is common a day or two after shoeing and most horses will show signs of soreness trotting in a tight circle over hard ground, something they'll be asked to do during the exam.

Your Take-Away Notes

Pre-purchase findings are not a warranty of health or soundness in the future - there's no test, X-ray or MRI that can do that. Pre-purchase exams are an assessment of suitability for your goals, as well as for your comfort level and your finances should, for instance, a pre-existing condition require maintenance now or possibly in the future.

Remember too, there is no perfect horse. If you look hard and long enough, you will find something "wrong." However, by evaluating the results of the pre-purchase exam, weighing the pros and cons, and by discussing these results with your vet and your trainer, you'll be able to make a knowledgeable decision.

Happy horse shopping!

**Osteochondritis dissecans, or OCD, is a condition characterized by defects in cartilage formation and maturation in joint surfaces.*





Through Ongoing Fundraising and Project Support the

WEST COAST EQUINE FOUNDATION HAS A ROLE IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE EQUINE INDUSTRY

Our Fundraising Program

- **Charity Golf Tournament** - For six years, the West Coast Equine Foundation (WCEF) has held an annual charity golf tournament. This year, 140 players enjoyed a fun-filled, competitive round of golf at the beautiful Murieta Country Club. The day concluded with an entertaining and fast-paced awards ceremony, a raffle and a charity auction.
- **Business Calendar project** - In 2015, 6,000 calendars were produced and distributed to MEC exhibitors, spectators and community members. Fifty-four business ads were sold, with the proceeds directly benefiting WCEF's programs.
- **Facility Sponsorships/Advertisement Program** - More than 45 businesses - corporate and local - advertise with us. The benefits of becoming a WCEF sponsor include access to a targeted advertising market of more than 180,000 horse enthusiasts that come to our facility annually. Sponsors receive signage throughout the Murieta Equestrian Center, company links on our three websites, vendor space at an MEC produced show, ads in print materials such as our quarterly newsletter, and more.
- **Donations and Memberships** - Private and corporate donations are generously given to WCEF in support of our many ongoing projects. Our Foundation membership provides members with information on upcoming events and discounts on merchandise at our glamour ranch store, Cares & Whoas.
- **El Rancho Futurity and El Rancho Spring Classic** - The Futurity, featuring the Mercuria World Series, is one of the nation's premier cutting events drawing the nation's top cutting horses, riders and trainers with \$188,000 in added money. The Spring Classic is a popular weekend cutting that draws hundreds of regional competitors.

Projects We Support

- **Youth Horsemanship Challenge** - The Challenge is fun, educational and inspiring. Challenges are held three times each year, at the Spring and Summer Gold-N-Grands and at the El Rancho Cutting Futurity.

During the Summer Gold-N-Grand, youth ages 7-18 participate in a three-part horsemanship challenge that includes entering a class during the show, completing a test, and attending an interactive horse health presentation. The goal of the Youth Horsemanship Challenge is to help ensure that our youth understand the importance of responsible horsemanship and the humane treatment of horses. In 2015, 130 youths participated in the program.
- **Scholarship Program** - During the past eight years, more than \$159,000 in scholarships have been awarded to deserving and hardworking students pursuing equine-related careers. Scholarships are given to first-year college students as well as continuing college students.
- **Therapeutic Riding Programs** - The West Coast Equine Foundation is a proud supporter of Ride to Walk in Lincoln and Project R.I.D.E. in Elk Grove. Ride to Walk is a therapeutic program that has served disabled children for more than 20 years. Project R.I.D.E. provides therapeutic recreational horseback riding instruction to more than 500 children and adults with special needs.

Recently, the West Coast Equine Foundation and Poelman Construction teamed up to help support one special young rider's passion for horses. Alex Henry, a 12-year-old girl living in the Sacramento region, developed a tumor in her left leg that was diagnosed as Osteosarcoma. She underwent surgery to amputate her leg, followed by 29 weeks of chemotherapy. Alex has remained positive throughout the process and has been anxiously awaiting her prosthesis so she can get back into the saddle.
- **4-H and Youth Organizations** - More than \$5,000 is given annually to support local 4-H and youth organizations promoting the horse and human bond, and responsible horsemanship.

Humane Efforts

The West Coast Equine Foundation is also supportive of compelling and humane rescue efforts.

In response to the recent Butte Fire, WCEF and the Murieta Equestrian Center raised \$14,000 to help provide horses with veterinary care, feed and other expenses.

*"A man on a horse
is spiritually,
as well as physically,
bigger than a
man on foot."*

- John Steinbeck

INMATE THERAPY PROGRAM OFFERS HORSES A NEW LIFE

A fairly new project at the Rio Cosumnes Correctional Facility is giving both jail inmates and wild horses from Nevada and Northern California new opportunities. The R3C Wild Horse Program, put on through the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), teaches inmates about their emotions as it facilitates adoption for horses removed from the range as the BLM works to maintain wild horse populations at sustainable levels.

To enter the program, inmates must first apply and then be interviewed by Sergeant Brad Rose, a re-entry coordinator with the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department and head of the Wild Horse Program. Suitable inmates are then interviewed by Joe Misner, the ranch manager directly in charge of the inmates. The boots-on-the-ground guy, Misner has not only trained mustangs for a living, but he also competes in wild mustang competitions throughout the country.



Currently there is a large population of inmates who need to learn socialization skills along with 50,000 horses in holding facilities waiting to find homes. Working with these horses helps the inmates learn how to get along with others and to work with groups. According to Sergeant Rose, "This program has been shown to lower the re-offense rates of inmates and to help the public adopt trained mustangs." Rose added that these inmates are the ones who "will eventually get out of incarceration and who need ... to learn how to socialize with people again in society."

The horses are in training for about 120 days and the inmates are responsible for caring for the animals, including feeding, watering, and getting them comfortable with humans. Misner noted that the inmates quickly learn that they can't come

into the program acting tough because a wild 1,200 pound mustang will just "mow them over!" He continued that, "The inmates need to really learn how to read the horses and to gain their trust."

Once the horses begin to show that trust, the inmates start saddling them, leading them around, and loading and unloading them from trailers. When the mustangs have completed their training, they are put up for adoption in the BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program.

Help support this program! The R3C Wild Horse Program is always in need of donations. Items needed include Western saddles, pads and bridles; fencing supplies, and shelter and covered arena materials. To donate or to learn more about the R3C Wild Horse Program, contact Ranch Manager Joe Misner, (254) 386-2640 or jmisner@sacsheriff.com.

Adopt a mustang! Please join us for the next adoption event, Saturday, November 14, at the Murieta Equestrian Center.

OPEN DAILY DURING EVENTS

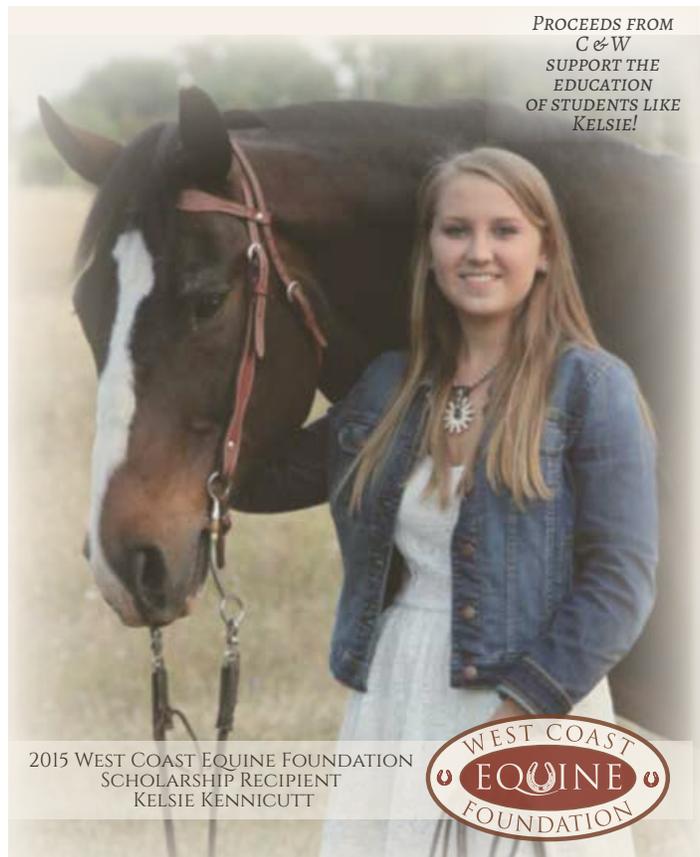


A BENEFIT FOR THE
WEST COAST EQUINE FOUNDATION

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916.354.2119
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PROCEEDS FROM
C & W
SUPPORT THE
EDUCATION
OF STUDENTS LIKE
KELSIE!

2015 WEST COAST EQUINE FOUNDATION
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT
KELSIE KENNICUTT



The West Coast Equine Foundation supports a variety of community programs and services in an effort to "Build Community." Our philosophy focuses on "better education benefits horses, riders and our community."



- **EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS:**
We grant scholarships for youth pursuing an education in an equine related field.
- **YOUTH HORSEMANSHIP CHALLENGE:**
We conduct a series that includes a riding competition and an interview to show horsemanship knowledge/skills. Youth can compete in both riding and interview or just the interview competition. Scholarships are awarded.
- **4-H AND YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS:**
We support a variety of youth organizations that promote responsible horsemanship.
- **EDUCATIONAL SERIES:**
We promote education by providing a variety of clinics that promote horse health and horsemanship knowledge.
- **THERAPEUTIC RIDING PROGRAMS:**
We provide funding to support therapeutic riding programs.
- **HUMANE EFFORTS:**
We are supportive of compelling and humane rescue efforts.

www.WestCoastEquineFoundation.org



Kathleen's Cook Shack
is the sole concessionaire for the
Murieta Equestrian Center

Barbeque ◊ Hospitality Set Up
Appetizer Parties ◊ Welcome Parties

Please contact her for any and all food related needs
(916) 216-2489



*"The horse.
Here is nobility
without conceit,
friendship without
envy, beauty
without vanity.
A willing servant,
yet never a slave."*

-Ronald Duncan



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*"In riding a
horse, we borrow*

freedom."

-Helen Thompson



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West Coast Equine Foundation
916.354.2119 Office

916.354.2127 Fax

www.westcoastequinefoundation.org

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EQUINE *News*

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