

DIABLO ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2008 NEWSLETTER



Diablo Arabian Horse Association
www.diabloaha.org

Editors: Meghan Johnson
Sidney Simpson

Letter from the President

By Debbie Compilli

Hello,

Here we are---turning the corner into summer. And DAHA has activities to keep you and your horse on the move.

First, a big thank you to Manager, Coke Swift, for another excellent job of putting on DAHA's spring show at Brookside on May 15th through 18th, 2008. And to all of the volunteers who helped throughout that very warm four days -- Thank You.

Newsletter editor, Meghan Johnson, has written articles with all of the details about the recent show, and the upcoming Danville Hay Days celebration on July 3rd at 7- 7:30p.m. We are looking for volunteers and gentle horses for this event.

In June, DAHA is cohosting with Save Mt. Diablo a 25 mile/50 mile endurance ride on the mountain. Our website has a link to the Mt Diablo Endurance ride entry forms at www.diabloaha.org. Along with competitors, volunteers are always needed. If you would like to help out, please contact Jill Mitchell at 925- 250- 1371.

We will also be hosting our second annual Mt Diablo BBQ Terrace ride August 9th, 2008 at 10a.m. meeting at Summit Ranch. Lunch will be catered. It was a fantastic ride last year and we are pleased to make this an annual event.

Region III Championship will be held at the Reno Livestock Pavillon July 6th through 12th, 2008. They will be having a progressive barn party, a Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament, a Patron Horseshoe Tournament and a Go Hawaiian Day. For Show information, contact Sharon Richards at

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sharonr789@yahoo.com or (916) 645- 2288.

Don't forget to send your competition points, for either trail rides or the show ring, to Sherry Pedder. She the DAHA's High Point chairman. You can email her at: sherry.pedder@gmail.com.

Have a fantastic summer!

Sincerely,

Debbie Compilli,
President



DAHA Calendar of Events

DAHA Mt Diablo Endurance Ride 25/50 Miles

Saturday, June 21, 2008 – 5:30a.m.

Gateway Mt Diablo State Park North Gate Road

DAHA at “Hay Days”

Thursday, July 3, 2008 – 7p.m.

Lunardi’s Parking Lot, Railroad Ave, Danville

DAHA Mt Diablo BBQ Terrace Trail Ride

Saturday, August 9, 2008 – 10a.m.

Summit Ranch, Alamo, CA

RSVP 925- 250- 1371 or

mitchelljm22566@sbcglobal.net

DAHA Fall Fling Show

Brookside Equestrian Center - We need volunteers!

Friday- Sunday September 26- 28, 2008

Contact: Nancy Goertzen (559) 625- 2631

e- mail: goertzenarab@surfside.net

DAHA Mt Diablo BBQ Terrace Trail Ride

A DAHA sponsored trail ride to BBQ Terrace is set for Saturday, August 9 at 10 a.m. We will be meeting at Summit Ranch in Alamo, CA for a spectacular trail ride through Pine Canyon and up to BBQ Terrace camp site where we will enjoy a catered lunch from El Balazo with the horses. Please bring halter/leadrope and \$10 for lunch. This was a hugely successful ride last year and has been brought back by popular demand. RSVP to Jill Mitchell by April 20th 925- 250- 1371 or mitchelljm22566@sbcglobal.net For directions, contact Jill.



Board Member Sherry Pedder and friends in Pine Canyon at the 2007 DAHA Mt Diablo BBQ Terrace Ride

All About Pets

Going on vacation this summer? Looking for a local, reliable, and professional pet sitter? Call DAHA’s own Lynne Chavelle.



ALL ABOUT PETS

Pet Sitting

Dog Walking

Serving Alamo, Danville, Lafayette, and Walnut Creek

Lynne (925) 285- 7140

Bonded & Insured

1st Annual Diablo Trail Endurance Ride 25/50!

AERC Sanctioned and Region 3 Championship Ride

On June 21, 2008, Save Mount Diablo is sponsoring the first annual Mt Diablo Trail 25/50 mile Endurance ride. Start/finish at the Gateway Mt Diablo State Park North Gate Road, Walnut Creek. Registration opens February 25, 2008 on www.savemountdiablo.org. We need volunteers to make this event a success! For more information email Trail Chair Jill Mitchell mitchelljm22566@sbcglobal.net or call 925- 250- 1371. You can also contact Ride Secretary Amara Morrison at amara.morrison@comcast.net.



2008 Family Arabian Horse Nominee:

BREEZY

By Elizabeth "Lizzie" Rogers

If you think back, there is always one horse that you remember and love the most. For me that horse is Breezy. Breezy was certainly not the best show horse, nor the most trained, but she had the most heart and the most spirit that I have ever seen in a horse. Breezy taught me how to ride, how to love, and how to lose.

Standing a little higher than fourteen hands, eight-year-old Breezy was a small and sturdy horse in stature. Her perfect flea-bitten coat would shine in the early afternoon sun, while her dainty hooves would go clip-clop on the pavement. Breezy's thick mane and tail would fly around her, as the wind let loose, and her alert ears would prick up as a squirrel crossed our path. This sturdy little bundle of energy was flighty and easily spooked, but in the last few months of her life, Breezy would gain the courage and get over the scary pebbles and trees in her way.

On our last trip together, my Breezy would succumb to colic, and force me to make the hardest decision in my life. How do you say goodbye to your best friend? How do you watch them walk away from you forever? This is what I had to decide, when the vet in L.A. let me make the fatal decision. Breezy's hind end had become paralyzed, if she stood, she would collapse. Her heart rate was over three times to fast, and her intestines were all as swollen as they could get. The only other option was for Breezy to undergo a ten thousand dollar surgery, that she had very little prospect of even surviving. If Breezy did survive and got lucky enough to recover, she would never be able to do anything again.

Breezy would not want to live like that, and so the decision was simple. I would make my last goodbyes to a friend who had always been there. Upon my entering her stall, Breezy began thrashing around, and trying, but failing to stand. Breezy had on a muzzle that was dripping blood, and her eyes were dulled in pain. Breezy's body was covered in dried sweat, and her sides were so sucked in you could see every bone in her body. Breezy barely looked like the horse I had petted and hugged yesterday, it was like looking at a ghost.



Lizzie and Breezy competing at 2007 DAHA Spring Show

As I held her head in my hands, and kissed her eyes, I knew in my heart that Breezy was in pain and needed to be relieved of it. As my baby took her last breaths, I knew this was the last I would see of her on this earth.

On the car ride home to the show grounds from the hospital, I was inconsolable, but I knew Breezy was in a better place. Even now after a year of losing my horse, I still miss her and will continue to think of her every day for the rest of my life.

When people ask me, "So, do you have a horse?" I now have to answer, "I used to." This happens almost everyday for me, and so almost everyday I have to relive that horrible day. I hate crying and feeling sad, I would rather think only of the happier times I had with Breezy. It is every little girl's dream to have her own horse, and when I finally bought my own horse, she was stolen from me for no good reason at all. I know I will see Breezy again one day, because her spirit cannot die.

That was the hardest thing I have ever had to do. To lose my best friend and first horse, it is one of the hardest things to go through. Breezy is gone because she succumbed to colic, but her memory will forever live on. All I have left of her is a tail and memories, but no one can take them away from me. Breezy taught me how to ride, how to love, and how to lose.

Breezy, my baby, you will forever live on in my heart, and I will never ever forget you. Goodbye and rest in peace, my baby Breezy.

[Do you want to nominate your horse? Send your story, along with a picture, to \[sidneysimpson@comcast.net\]\(mailto:sidneysimpson@comcast.net\)](#)

DAHA Fall Fling Show

Our Fall Fling Show will be at Brookside Equestrian Park, September 26 – 28, 2008. Entries close September 7, 2008. Last year we received record entries for 194 horses, a huge increase from the previous year which was entries for 163 horses. We will be hosting 200 classes including some “Fun Classes” on Saturday afternoon. There will be a pizza party Friday night and an ice-cream social Saturday afternoon. This year, we will be holding a free Sales Horse Parade Saturday afternoon which is limited to the first 20 horses entered into the show that are signed up. We are still looking for volunteers to give out ribbons, help run the office and administrative duties, be Ring Stewards and Scribes for the judges. Class Sponsorships are available, \$15 per class, \$25 for two classes. Please call Jill Mitchell at 925-250-1371 if you are interested in volunteering or sponsoring a class. Your support will make this show a success!

DAHA Point Reyes Ride

By Meghan Johnson

On Saturday, April 26th at 10a.m, 10 DAHA members and friends set out from Five Brooks Staging area in Olema, CA through Point Reyes National Seashore to the Wildcat camp side for a day of trail riding. We enjoyed a spectacular day riding through the redwoods and on the beach. It was a lovely day at the beach to enjoy bagged lunches with our horses and friends! We met a lot of equestrians along the way. It was great to enjoy one our national treasures with our horses. We have gotten a few phone calls and emails from members hoping we will do this ride again later on this year so we will strive to organize another ride in case you missed out. We hope to make this a semi-annual ride! Stay tuned!



Board Member Lynne Chavelle and friends riding through the redwoods

DAHA Spring Show

By Meghan Johnson and Coke Swift

Our 2008 Spring Show took place at Brookside Equestrian Park, May 15 – 18, 2008. We had 392 horses entered and 369 actually showed in 362 classes. This was up from 351 entries at the 2007 Spring Show. This is fantastic considering the current economic times. Our theme this year was “Hollywood,” we had some great costumes in the Hollywood costume classes and fantastic stall decorations in the Hollywood theme. The judges were so overwhelmed by the costume classes that everyone was awarded blue ribbons and trophies! Arabian Star won for 5- 10 stalls and Jill Mitchell Training won for 11 stalls and over. They won the loving cup full of chocolate coins, a \$50 movie gift card and \$100. The show was HOT HOT HOT but there were lots and lots of fun social events to distract us from the heat. The progressive barn party was on Friday night. Bill Madden, owner of Brookside, really coordinated the party and supplied all of the water, sodas and tables. Jesse Saldana grilled chicken, beef and pork for soft tacos, the McDaniels did trip-tip, Bob Brooks cooked chicken wings, there was pasta, pinwheels, watermelon, strawberries, ice cream, chips and salsa, keg beer and margaritas, BBQ'd corn with real melted butter and so much more. The free pizza party was a big hit on Thursday night and Bill had a Preakness party up in Silky's Pub Saturday afternoon with his own version of a mint julep for cheering on the race horses. We also had a Mexican fiesta dinner on Saturday night. Obviously with the heat the pool was very popular all weekend with the kids and parents as a way to stay cool. A big THANK YOU to all our volunteers. We're looking forward to the DAHA Fall Show in September. Hope to see you at the next show!



2008 High Point Standings

By Sherry Pedder

May 5, 2008

PB WESTERN PLEASURE:

OK. Formally Attired 22
Buckaroo MA
Lucille Ball

PB ENGLISH PLEASURE:

PB HUNTER PLEASURE:

Buckaroo MA

PB VERSATILITY:

OK. Formally Attired 7
Buckaroo MA 17
Lucille Ball
Way Cool Zee+ / 96

PB HALTER MARES:

PB HALTER STALLIONS:

PB HALTER GELDINGS:

HA ENGLISH PLEASURE:

HA HALTER GELDINGS:

HA HALTER MARES:

JUNIORS: 10 & UNDER – WALK/JOG

C. Edwards/OK. Formally Attired 24

JUNIORS: 13 & UNDER

M. Engelhart/Lucille Ball 35
A. Edwards/Pati Cake 28

JUNIORS: 14 - 17

A. Engelhart/Lucille Ball 6
A. Engelhart/Buckaroo MA 35
A. Engelhart/Citrine 12
K. McKillop/Citrine 38

IBN SKOVDUE- ADULT

Amy Edwards 22
Debbie Bartman 96

IBN SKOVDUE- JUNIORS

Alexa. Engelhart 35
Caroline Edwards 24

HA WESTERN PLEASURE:

ISHI CP HAHR
PATI CAKE
CITRINE

HA VERSATILITY:

PATI CAKE 9
CITRINE

HA HUNTER PLEASURE:

DREAM IN COLOR 50
ISHI CP HAHR
CITRINE

SPORT HORSE UNDER SADDLE:

DREAM IN COLOR
Way Cool Zee+ /

SPORT HORSE- IN- HAND (PB&HA) ISHICP:

ENDURANCE:
MAKAYLAA 25
STELLE FIRE 11+ / 25
ARON MOON+ // 25

COMPETITIVE TRAIL:

ARON MOON+ / /
DRESSAGE:
SHAMELESS BEY- / 30

AMATEUR EXCELLENCE PERF:

DEBBIE BARTMAN 96

AMATEUR EXCELLENCE HALTER:

EMERALD VIXEYN SENIOR (PB & HA):
PATI CAKE 37

TRAINER INCENTIVE:

JILL MITCHELL 5
JUDI JACKSON 1
DEBBIE COMPILLI 1

Thanks for joining the DAHA 2008 High Point Program.
Remember that DAHA- Sponsored shows count for double points!

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO JOIN
GOOD LUCK!

Horse Riding Vacations

By Meghan Johnson

Have you ever considered horse riding on your next vacation? What better way to see the world than from the back of a horse. I just got back from horse riding on Selle Francais / Arab crosses for a week in Bordeaux, France and I loved every minute. I have also been able to ride Irish Hunters in Sligo, Ireland and Lusitanos in Milfontes, Portugal on riding vacations. It's a wonderful way to enjoy parts of the world that are not easily accessible to most tourists and it's a great way to enjoy the local culture, food, people and horses with fellow equestrians from around the world. These vacations are also all inclusive except for the air flight so they are usually great deals. Just about any place in the world that you have ever wanted to visit is available for horse riding. Check out Equitours at www.equitours.com and Hidden Trails at www.hiddentrails.com for your next riding vacation! I can't wait for my next vacation on horseback, seeing the world between the ears of a horse.



Fiesta, a Lusitano/Arab cross at the beach in Portugal

Mt Diablo Road and Trail Plan Meeting

By Meghan Johnson

On Saturday, April 12th at 4p.m., I attended the Mt Diablo Trail and Road Plan Meeting with fellow DAHA board member Lynne Chavelle and several of my fellow stable mates at the CMDTRA Clubhouse in Clayton. I was a little worried when I got there at 3:30pm to find only 20 or so people at the Concord Mt Diablo Trail Riders Association Clubhouse. We enjoyed a nice late BBQ lunch. By 4pm I counted about 80 people at the meeting and half way through the meeting I counted 130+ people!!

Continued

Susan Schwartz, Mt Diablo Park Maintenance Supervisor introduced Lorrie Dossett, a Regional Park employee who talked about the process of completing a 20 year Trail and Road Plan with a Power Point presentation. The last time a plan was finalized was 1979 so we are really over due for a new trail plan. They emphasized that they are neutral and Mt Diablo had only started collecting data on what is important to trail users. They will be having these trail and road plan meetings for various user groups to get some input as well as having park employees hang out at trail heads and various places through the park at different days and times to hand out and collect surveys. They also emphasized that there are many factors that will be considered when they are putting together this survey. They want all the trails and roads to be considered "facilities" just like the park restrooms, camp sites and buildings. A lot of equestrians asked questions and raised issues like the single track trails and how dangerous the trails have become to those on foot and on horseback. This process will take about a year and I hope we will find out about future meetings so we can be involved in this process.

They passed out the surveys at the end of the meeting and it asked us:

- *What type of user we were: Hiker, Biker, Equestrian etc.
- *How often we used the trails in the past year: 21+ being the highest amount we could put down.
- What we used the trails for: education, views, recreation etc.
- Why we used the trails.
- On a scale of 1- 5 (5 being the highest) the importance of certain improvements like more horse trails, more bike trails, more trail heads, more trail access, more paved roads and parking, more interconnecting trails, solitude, trails to views etc.
- What our favorite trail was.
- There was a space to write down any issues we wanted the park service to know about: I wrote that the single track trails need to be closed to mountain bikes and only be open to foot traffic and equestrians. It would be dangerous to the public to have speeding bikes on such trails with little space for passing.
- We could also choose to write our names, addresses and emails on the survey.

There was tight control of the surveys and we had to fill them out and have them collected at the clubhouse before we left. DAHA will try and find out further meetings to keep our members informed. Please let us know if you have any questions.

DAHA Classifieds

Concord home for lease. Updated 3 bedrm./2 bath + covered RV parking. 1482 sq. ft. Living room, family room, dining room. Covered patio. Fully landscaped, gardener included. 2 car garage + gated & covered RV parking (truck/boat). Great commute location. Close to schools & shopping. Comm. pool Membership available. \$2,150.00 per month. Call Debbie Compilli: 925- 519- 1082.

Do you have a classified ad? Email Meghan Johnson at MZara75030@aol.com



DAHA Membership Survey

Please take a moment and fill out this DAHA membership survey to let us know what you are interested in and looking for in our club. By filling out this survey, it gives the board an idea of what your interests are, what you like, dislike, what you want more or less of so we can serve you better. If you have any questions or concerns contact Family Chair Sidney Simpson at sidneysimpon@comcast.com. For your convenience, the survey is attached on page 8 of this newsletter. Please email or mail the completed survey to Sidney Simpson.

Comments? Suggestions? Ideas? Pictures?

Please send to: Meghan Johnson (925) 708- 8571
MZara75030@aol.com

DAHA at Danville's "Hay Days" Celebration

By Meghan Johnson and Sidney Simpson

DAHA has been invited to participate in the 50th anniversary of Danville Hay Days from 4pm to 8pm on July 3rd, 2007 to showcase this area's agricultural past. We will be showing horses and educating the public on the Arabian breed in the parking lot of Lunardi's on the corner of Railroad and Prospect in Danville from 7- 7:30p.m. of Railroad Avenue and Danville. This is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of San Ramon Valley. There will be a pet parade, free ice cream and hot dogs, music, and an old fashioned bathing suit competition--sort of a good old- fashioned, small- town event. We will have an area for us for a half hour between 7- 7:30p.m. (right after the pet parade) where we will have three horses along with their two accompanying humans--one to hold the horse and the other to groom and tack. One will be done in Western, one in English, and one in Native Costume.

The humans will also be attired in the appropriate matching clothing. Sidney will introduce the people and the horses, give a little background on everyone and then explain tack and types of riding. We will also discuss various training facilities, where children especially can take lessons. Any additional information on trail riding groups, Mt.Diablo, cow sorting-- any horse related activities in the area--Arabian and non--will be very much appreciated, and we are encouraging flyers and info from anyone who has anything. We will need some volunteers to set up and "man"/"woman" the info desk...people who are good at answering questions.

We will have a display board of pictures. This is a fun event with lots of food and activities to enjoy. Please let Family Outreach chair Sidney Simpson or DAHA President Debbie Compilli know if you wish to participate or volunteer a bomb proof horse at sidneysimpon@comcast.com and debbie@debbiecompilli.com. This is a great opportunity to show off the Arabian horse and participate in the community.

DAHA's own Mike Tracy and Aron Moon+// win AERC Award!

Aron Moon+// and Mike Tracy won AERC Partners Award at the 2008 AERC National Convention. Next month there will be an article on Aron Moon+// in the June issue of Endurance News Magazine. Aron Moon+// has an astounding 5,425 recorded endurance miles according to AERC. Congratulations Mike and Moon!

Do you have news? Email Meghan Johnson at MZara75030@aol.com

Diablo Arabian Horse Association Membership Survey

We want to take moment to touch bases with you to see how well we are meeting your needs. You are important to us. Please take a moment to complete the questions below so that we can reassess our goals and activities and how they meet the needs of our many diverse members. Then return the information to Sidney Simpson, Family Outreach Chair
sidneysimpson@comcast.net or Sidney Simpson

15345 Inverness St
San Leandro, CA 94579

1. Name _____
2. Age _____
3. How many horses do you own? ____ Are they all Arabians? _____
4. How long have you been a member of DAHA?
5. Why did you originally join DAHA (i.e. what did you expect from the organization)?
6. What kinds of activities do you do with your horses?
7. Are you in training and, if so, what kind?
8. List any other equestrian organizations that you belong to.
9. Do you read the newsletter on line?
10. How often have you visited the DAHA website?
11. Did you participate in any DAHA activities last year?
 - A. Fall Show?
 - B. Spring Show?
 - C. Winter High Points Award Banquet?
 - D. Trail Rides?
 - E. Spring Social? Other?
12. Does DAHA currently meet your needs?
13. What kinds of additional activities would you like DAHA to provide?
14. Would you be willing to volunteer some time at one of our shows or help set up at our annual banquet?

Diablo Arabian Horse Association

Is proud to present our annual

Fall Fling Horse Show

September 26 – September 28

Class A - Arabian & Half-Arabian

Region III Qualifying Show

Brookside Equestrian Park, Elk Grove, CA

Western, Hunter, Country English, English, Reining, Trail, Sport Horse In
Hand & Under Saddle, Halter, Showmanship & lots of FUN classes

All youth classes Saturday & Sunday

Judges: Shannon Armstrong
Trail and Sport Horse Judges TBA

NEW!! Sale Horse Parade: Limited to the First 20 horses signed up!

For information or a premium list contact:

Coke Swift, Show Manager 209 464-1932

Email: willowjewelfarm@yahoo.com

Nancy Goertzen, Show Secretary 559 625-2631

email: goertzenarab@surfside.net