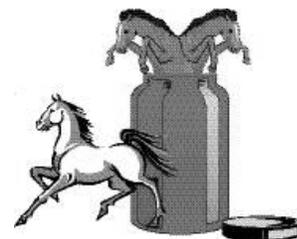


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# CONTENTS OF THE JAR

## The Newsletter of Joder Arabian Ranch

*With News of Mountain Meadow Holistic Equestrian Center  
and Rocky Mountain Equi-Rhythm: Horses Balancing Hearts*



**Summer 2006**

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### MMHEC Is Growing!

By Caroline Roy

It's hard to believe that it's not even six months since Mountain Meadow Holistic Equestrian Center was established to assume the boarding operation at Joder Ranch. MMHEC continues to grow, with many new horses, new boarders, new instructors, and, along with them, quite a few changes. We are grateful for the support of all of you, both at the ranch and in the broader community, as we make steady progress toward turning our dream into a reality. We especially thank the Joder family for their continued support of our efforts. Anna Best Joder would be very proud to see that the Rocky Mountain School of Horsemanship is alive and well (see page 11)!

The Board of Boarders has approved a new tagline and mission statement for MMHEC:

*Mountain Meadow Holistic Equestrian Center:  
Outstanding horse care in a spectacular setting*

*The mission of the Mountain Meadow Holistic Equestrian Center is to provide our horses with first-rate care that ensures their health, safety, and happiness; create an environment that reflects a horse's natural setting; support the natural horseman philosophy of two-way communication between horse and rider; and strive to be a friendly, safe, family-oriented community where all ages and abilities are welcome.*

Now ... let me know if you know an artist who can work with us to develop an MMHEC logo!

### Equi-Rhythm Update

By Caroline Roy

The summer is upon us and with it come the shiny faces of children and adolescents attending Equi-Rhythm summer horse camp. In addition to New Horizons and Niwot Learning Center pre-schoolers coming to the ranch to learn about horses and have pony rides, three types of camps are being offered.

#### Summer Horse Camps

Many of the children who have attended morning camp this summer and who will attend the remaining four camps have been sponsored by the Erie Town Board of Trustees, Erie Optimist Club, Superior Town Board of Trustees, Boulder County Department of Social Services (BCDSS), and Boulder County Mental Health Department. These children, in addition to children from local communities, come to the ranch to learn about horses, create a relationship with these wonderful beings, and learn to ride them.

Afternoon camps, sponsored by BCDSS, are for youth from Casey Middle School who are at high risk of dropping out of school. One group of seven boys and one group of seven girls will complete three weeks of camp with the focus on building life skills. Both groups have completed one week of camp and counselors are looking forward to being able to work with these youth again in July and August to help them continue to build skills with the horses and each other.

Boulder Probation Department has created the Y.O.U. (Youth Opportunities Unlimited)

summer camp program for thirty probation youth. These youth spend Monday afternoon with Equi-Rhythm as one of the components of an eight-week camp designed to help them stay out of trouble while earning school and service learning credit, with possible early release from probation. We are into the fourth week of camp and counselors have observed a wonderful shift in the youth as they work with the horses and create a relationship with another being. After an equine session last week, one participant stated it well: "Being at the ranch and with the horses takes away all the problems for just a few hours and it is a nice change." The youth who complete the eight-week program will finish the camp with a journey ride around the Joder Mountain and an art show.

All summer camps are being led by extraordinary camp staff who are a wonderful combination of teachers, mentors, and coaches in addition to being well versed at setting limits and keeping both campers and horses safe. Camp staff include Emily Donoho (owner of Gypsum and Dante), Cristen Poole (owner of Savannah), Hallie Sabo (MMHEC instructor), Nina Lewis (JAR former instructor), and Amy Raucher (former owner of Tigger). Summer Camp Counselors are Caitlin Epple (Senior 4-H member and Tucker's leaser), Amy Harrison (Senior 4-H member), Natalya Fearnley (4-H member and owner of Baby Hughy), Sela Harcey (former 4-H member), Missy Schink (last year camp volunteer), and Vanessa Lennon (camper last year). Auxiliary Summer Camp Counselors include Jennifer Key (equine therapy), Caroline Roy (equine therapy and general camp coordinator), Julia Dordoni (yoga and art instructor), Casey Hennigh (service learning coordinator), and Ted Connolly and Hands on Resources (ropes course) staff. Billie Myers and Diane Renz are camp volunteers.

This year, additional components of art, yoga, service learning, and the ropes course have been added to the summer camp curriculum. Julia Dordoni, art and yoga teacher for Equi-Rhythm summer camp, is in need of the items listed in the box. Many of the children in camp are on partial scholarships. Your donation of money or items will be greatly appreciated.

#### **Art Supplies Needed for Horse Camp!**

- New white tee-shirts
- Fabric paint
- Fabric markers
- Paint brushes
- Styrofoam meat trays 4" or wider
- Print making ink, water based
- Brayers (ink rollers)
- Paper/plastic drop cloth for tables
- Print making paper
- Chalk
- Scissors
- Elmer's glue
- Wax paper
- Glue sticks
- Masking tape

#### **Upcoming Equi-Rhythm Events**

On Thursday, September 28, 2006, the Boulder Probation Department staff (60 staff members) will hold their retreat at JAR, sponsored by Equi-Rhythm, with activities to include equine therapy, ropes course, yoga, art, and nature walks. This event will be the first collaborative team effort to actualize the larger vision and encompass the many healing elements of Joder Arabian Ranch.

#### **Equi-Rhythm Adopt-a-Horse Program**

Gracie and some of the other RMER horses are available to be "adopted" (financially). What this means is that you contribute a set amount each month to RMER for a horse's food or shoeing (or both!). If you are interested in providing this kind of support, please contact Caroline ([equi.rhythm@comcast.net](mailto:equi.rhythm@comcast.net) or 303-919-3946).

Thank you to the following for their support of Equi-Rhythm horses: Kelly Kanizay for farrier services for Gracie and Sunny B; Billie Myers for farrier services and vet fees for Charlie and equine massage, reiki, and healing touch for the Equi-Rhythm horses; Grace Maddox for chiropractic sessions for Gracie who has stringhalt; Jackie Nairn for equine massages for Equi-Rhythm horses; Hallie Sabo for chiropractic ses-

sions for Tucker and Beau; Jenny Key for vet fees for Equi-Rhythm horses; and Diana Vann and Jenny Key for animal healing sessions for Equi-Rhythm horses.

### **Equi-Rhythm Website Live!**

Our Equi-Rhythm website is finalized and live at last! Thanks to Julie Rudy for all her efforts in getting the site organized and edited. Check it out at [www.equirhythm.org](http://www.equirhythm.org).

### **Equi-Rhythm Wish List**

Equi-Rhythm has many needs for barn equipment, tack, supplies, feed, and other horse-related items. Items may be dropped off at the ranch during normal business hours (7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). Our wish list includes:

#### *Barn and Pen Needs:*

Stall mats  
Salt block holder  
Muck buckets  
Plastic pitchforks  
Halter racks/hooks  
Medium or large tire feeders  
Rubber mats for X-ray area  
Hoses (2 x 50', 1 x 25')  
Small feed/bathing buckets  
Medium or large rubber feed pans

#### *Miscellaneous:*

Paper towels and toilet paper  
Trashcan liners (30 and 60 gallon)  
First aid items  
Office supplies  
Rakes  
Brooms

#### *Tack and Training Needs:*

Bareback pads  
Stirrup leathers and safety irons (all sizes)  
Web reins  
Cones

#### *Monthly Feed Supplies:*

Equine Senior  
Alfalfa cubes  
Beet pulp  
Rice bran  
Grass and alfalfa hay

#### *Horse Care Needs:*

Biotin  
MSM  
Corta-Flex pellets  
Vetrap  
Surgical and elasticon adhesive tape (2" rolls)  
Fly spray  
Hoof conditioner  
Iodine  
Paste dewormers  
Routine vaccinations  
Farrier visits  
Chiropractic visits  
Veterinary incidents  
Weatherproof and breathable winter blankets

#### *Large Items Needed:*

Small tractor  
Loafing sheds  
Fencing (posts and wire)  
Automatic waterers  
Large feeders for round bales and 3 x 3 bales

#### *Services Needed:*

Electrician services  
Manure hauling  
Euthanasia service  
Trailer maintenance  
Truck fuel  
Contract labor (fence repair, plumbing, electricity...)

## **As the Barn Turns**

By Caroline Roy

*This column shares news sent by Caroline via email since the last published JAR newsletter.*

### **Updated MMHEC Directory "Innards"**

The new "innards" for your *MMHEC Directory* binder that was given out last December are available on the file cabinet in the lounge. If you did not get a binder, please let me know if you need one. Grace has agreed to keep the MMHEC database, so any new contact information should continue to be directed her way. Please send all updated contact, horse, vet, farrier, and other in-

formation to gmaddox@foliogroup.com or put it in Grace's mailbox in the lounge.

### **Barn Raising BBQ**

For sure, we had a BBQ on Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> – yah, ya bettcha! – even though we didn't raise a barn. My brother Kevin, his son Dustin, and Dustin's friend John came from Minnesota to build the barn and deliver the Minnesota country sausages. A last minute glitch with the building permit meant that we were not able actually to build the barn, but Kevin, Dustin, and John did a great job of fully preparing the site so that when they return in September we can get the barn raised.

### **Staffing Updates**

- Greg has left for his summer job in Arizona to work on an ecology/biology research team. He is available via phone to ranch management in an emergency. We miss him!
- Welcome to Karen Eiffert, who just completed the Horse Power equine therapy program in New Hampshire and will be helping with Equi-Rhythm programming efforts this summer. Karen has also assumed Assistant Barn Manager duties in Greg's absence.
- Caroline will be in Germany and Austria July 1<sup>st</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> and not available by phone. Karen Eiffert will be overseeing the ranch with phone contact with Greg if there are any issues that arise during that time. Karen can be reached at 720-308-5608.
- Welcome to Jessica Bosch, who is helping out with horse care and horse camp this summer. Jessica will be attending CSU in the fall with a major of Equine Science.
- MMHEC staff work hours for the next few months are posted in the tack room.

### **New Instructor Mail Folders**

Due to an increase in the number of instructors, the instructors' mailboxes have become stand-up folders located on the cabinet under the chalk board in the lounge.

### **Shelters and Stall Repairs Planned**

Tim Schwander will be making repairs to the stalls in the south barn and will be building shel-

ters for Pens 7, 8, and 10 over the next couple of months. Please let Tim know if you are available to help with the construction. Owners of the horses who turn out into Pen 7 have arranged to contribute the funding for that shelter's construction. Donations are needed for the Pen 8 shelter; these will be tax deductible as many of the Equi-Rhythm horses live in that pen.

### **New Footing!**

We have added new footing to the indoor arena (rubber and sand) and shavings to the dressage arena and the large outdoor arena. Thanks to Greg for picking up the rubber and Alfredo and Greg for placing the new footing in the arenas.

### **New Halter Racks and New Gate Latches**

We have been adding racks to all the pens so you will be able to hang those *labeled* halters and we are switching to a new gate latch system that is easier to use (thanks to Sandi for the suggestion).

### **Dogs at MMHEC**

Welcome to Bear (Oso in Spanish), the newest ranch dog. He is a 9-month old akita/border collie mix who was adopted by Caroline and Joe from the Boulder Humane Society. Bear and Ham (Greg Joder's dog) have been voted as the official ranch dogs. While they will not typically be on leash as they are helping with ranch work, they will be controlled as necessary. Please remember to keep your dog on a leash in the tacking and arena areas. With the warm weather, please do not leave your dog in your vehicle. We will be putting in a dog yard down below Pen 12. And don't forget to clean up after your pet. Plastic bags are located behind the door in the lounge for this purpose. Thanks!

### **Use of Green Machine**

Several boarders have requested to use the green machine to help keep their horse's pen clean or help with work projects. Please limit the use of the machine to work projects only and limit general driving as the green machine is old and breaks down frequently. We want to keep two machines available to the ranch, and ranch staff need to have priority over the machines. Please

do not use the yellow machine. Thanks for all your help in keeping the ranch looking great!

### **Schooling Horses Always Needed**

Is your horse available for use by MMHEC instructors or Equi-Rhythm? Contact Caroline or talk directly with an instructor if interested.

### **Horses Coming and Going**

- Welcome to many new horses and new boarders (for details, see page 13)!
- Our littlest pony, Carmela, has left to continue her training as a guide horse and has begun her work as a CTRC community good will ambassador. She recently made a guest appearance at Walmart and was a huge hit. Thanks to CTRC and Sandi Rosewell for sharing her with us for the past several months. We miss her sweet face.
- Miles has moved to Arizona to join Nina, who is thrilled to have him with her. He lives on a ranch about 20 minutes from Nina – with 92 horses on 12 acres of land, Nina misses Joder’s! Miles lives in the cowboy barn, so the cowboys and the dressage riders are not sure what to make of him. He failed the cowpony test when he bolted across the arena after seeing a calf spurt out of the calf-roping shoot. As Nina regained control, she heard a cowboy say, “This is the west, hasn’t that horse ever seen a calf before?” to which Nina replied, “No, can’t you see he is a dressage pony?”
- Sequoia has moved from Pen 3 to Pen 10 (Joder pen), where she has adjusted nicely and has claimed Buzzy as her boyfriend. Having overseen Pirouette’s upbringing for the past year, she will now have the chance to “mother” Pave, who will be spending his days with the Joder herd where he will have more room to exercise and grow strong.

### **Label and Tag Your Halters and Blankets**

All halters and blankets/sheets must be labeled with your and your horse’s name. And what a coincidence! The Blazing Saddles 4-H club is doing a fundraiser to travel to Kentucky next year and is selling tags to put on your halter at a

cheaper rate than local vendors. Please contact Grace Maddox to put in your order. Examples of the tags can be seen on the boarder board in the lounge.

### **Forms, Forms, and More Forms**

All new MMHEC forms are located in the file cabinet in the lounge. Please fill out these forms as needed and put them in Caroline’s box.

- *Incident Report and Western Soil Award Form.* Have you fallen off your horse? If so, please tell us about it. We have only one WSA form turned in so far—in spite of hearing rumors of others deserving of an award!
- *Trailing Request Form.* Do you need your horse to be trailered to a clinic or horse show? We’ll file completed forms in a binder to keep the schedule up to date.
- *Special Events Form.* Are you interested in hosting a clinic or other horse-related event at MMHEC? Check the binder on the desk in the lounge to see what events have been scheduled at the ranch and complete a form to request your event.
- *Equine Services Form.* Need special equine services for your horse while you go on vacation or on a daily basis? Fill out this form to request the services you need.
- *Fix-it Form.* Do you see something at the ranch that needs a fixin’? Use this form to report the problem.
- *May Deworming Form.* Please turn in this form if you haven’t already done so. We would like to take a manure sample from many of the pens to check for worms after everyone has done the May deworming.
- *New Boarding Contract and Liability Release.* Please turn in your new boarding contract and liability form if you haven’t already done so. We now have a single liability form for MMHEC and Equi-Rhythm.

### **Changes in Care / Feeding of Your Horse**

Are you changing the care and/or feeding of your horse? Please relay the change to Caroline or Karen Eiffert (new staff member) and write out your change on the special services request form, even if it is a change to a standard service. Please

do not ask Alfredo, Mindy, Casey, or Jessica to make the change unless it is an emergency. We have this system in place to ensure that your horse gets the best care possible.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

We are in process of creating a volunteer program at MMHEC. We are looking for coordinators to oversee volunteers and scheduling of activities. You will find a list of ranch projects on the boarder's board in the lounge. Please feel free to help with one of the existing projects or if you are interested in coordinating a particular project (such as planting flowerbeds, stall repair, and so forth) or interested in becoming one of the volunteer coordinators, please let Caroline know.

### **Wildlife Update**

The plague is back, visiting the prairie dogs who dwell at the Beech Open Space. Please refrain from letting your dog visit the prairie dogs at the ranch as it is only a matter of time before the plague reaches the JAR prairie dog colony. The plague is carried by fleas and usually does not affect humans unless they come in contact with a flea (often via the family pet) and are bitten.

So far this summer, mountain lions have been sighted everywhere it seems except Joder Arabian Ranch. Please keep an eye out for mountain lions and also for bears, who may come down for a visit. They are on the ranch property, but just hiding!

Several rattlesnakes have been sighted and stepped on by horses and humans alike, mostly in the south and east pastures. Please keep a lookout for rattlesnakes; they will avoid you if they can but do not like to be surprised. If you see a rattlesnake, please let ranch staff know and we will catch and relocate them to other areas of Boulder. Please wear long pants and boots when out in the pastures to prevent a bite to the leg. This should prevent the penetration of the venom into your skin. Please be safe in the field, even if it is hot and wearing shorts is so tempting.

### **Get Well Soon!**

Kaitlin Underwood was injured when Lil' Joe got scared by another horse at the Pen 8 gate near the

waterer and pushed her into the gate. Kaitlin has been released from Denver Children's Hospital and is recovering nicely. Joe misses you, Kaitlin, as do we all and hope you will be back soon.

### **Safety, Safety, Safety**

Please be very careful when going in and out of the pens at the ranch. Many of the pens have the waterer right next to the gate and the horses tend to gather there. MMHEC riding instructors have begun to teach all students herd behavior and safety precautions when entering pens. Remember, all pens except Pen 7 have two gates, so use the one with less congestion if possible. Shortly, there will be two sets of halters for Equi-Rhythm horses, one for the small gate and one for the large gate in Pen 8. Please *do not feed horses at the gates* and *always* have the owner's permission to feed any horse that is not your own.

It is an MMHEC policy that you must wear closed-toe shoes if you are interacting with a horse at the ranch. This is for your safety, as squished toes are a bit painful.

From this time forward, all visitors and guests at the ranch, whether they are riding or not, must sign a liability release. It is common practice in other states that before you enter an equine facility, you must sign a release. Please put signed releases in the folder on the filing cabinet. Thanks!

### **Monthly Off-Ranch Trail Ride**

Are you interested in a monthly Sunday trail ride at Mesa Trail, Heil Ranch, or Hall Ranch? Please let Caroline know if you can trailer other riders if you have a truck and trailer or want a space in the Joder trailer. An off-ranch ride has been scheduled for Sunday, July 16, at Hall Ranch in Lyons. We'll be meeting at 8:00 a.m. at Joder's to arrive at Hall Ranch by 9:00 a.m.

### **Ongoing / Upcoming Events at MMHEC**

- Yoga with Julia Dordoni will be going to a modified schedule for the summer and will be held Wednesdays at 5:00 in the JAR lounge. The cost is also increasing to \$8.50 per session if you buy a four-week pass or \$10 per drop-in session. Julia also will be at

the ranch teaching horse campers yoga and art. We will post those yoga classes; you are invited to participate at no charge in those.

- Diana Vann is hosting “Medieval Games on Horseback” throughout the summer in the lower jumping arena. Contact Diana for details at 303-483-3318.
- Pat Jarvis is hosting another clinic with Amy LeSatz at Rocky Top Farm (Pat’s place is just north of JAR) on Saturday, July 29. Let Pat know if you’d like to sign up for an hour or two with Amy (patjarvis@river.com).
- “Clicker Training for Your Horse,” sponsored by BCHA, will be presented by Cheryl Eastep, hosted by Mountain Meadow Holistic Equestrian Center on July 15th at 1:00 p.m. at Joder Ranch.



*Christy Jemail, MMHEC natural horse trainer, held a de-spooking clinic in May to teach us how to support our horses through their fear in a fun and controlled environment, both on the ground and under saddle. Above, Christy works with Ali Strawford and Kyra, while Tara and Julie Rudy watch their progress.*

### Thank You’s

- to Connie Hopkins for creating a spreadsheet of the types of dewormers we’re giving our horses and for scheduling two spring vet days; to Robin Maras and Michelle Slaughter for managing the vet days; and to Boulder Valley Vet for keeping our horses healthy
- to Grace for her wonderful work updating information for boarders, leasers, instructors, 4-Hers, and others in our community

- to Diana Vann for donating the new four-stall (one stall will be for vets and farriers) Castlebrook Barn to MMHEC and RMER
- to the 4-H members and parents for getting the jumps painted
- to Casey, Bishop, and Blayne for their hard-work creating the new rock patio outside the lounge
- to Julie Rudy for editing and publishing the JAR/MMHEC newsletter; for organizing and editing the content of the new RMER Website (see [www.equirhythm.org](http://www.equirhythm.org)); and for organizing and coordinating efforts to bring Judy Cross-Strehlke to the ranch
- to Julie Rudy, Billie Myers, and Grace Maddox for their help in planning and implementing the Cross-Strehlke clinic for Centered Riding for Challenged Populations
- to Billie Myers for organizing and working with Dr. Andy Dean, horse dentist, and for organizing the spring highway cleanup for the section of the road that JAR keeps clean
- to Grace Maddox, Assistant Barn Goddess Galore, for her past administrative volunteer work and best wishes as she transitions to a beginner instructor with RMSH
- to Alfredo Cruz for the new gate latches and the new halter racks that he has put up
- to Veronica Volny for her wonderful management of the “trails to tables” trail maintenance days and dinners
- to Alamar and Alfredo for their generous donation of that great Mexican cuisine following trail maintenance
- to all who contributed to the fund to help with the cost of Alfredo’s birthday celebration (we collected \$323!)
- to Kevin and Dustin Maurer and John Anderson, who laid the frames for the new barn, and to Dustin for cleaning the tool shed
- to Wiley Gillmor for trailering 4-H horses to the show on June 17 and to Wiley, Grace Maddox, and Hallie Sabo for going to the show to support the 4-Hers
- to Alfredo, Casey, Mindy, Jessica, and the camp counselors for taking such good care of our horses

- to Melinda Helmick, Connie Hopkins, Sandi Rosewell, Lori Bruhwiler, Margaret Wilson, Hope Ellis, Barbara Lennon, Greg Joder, Karen Eiffert, Caroline Roy, and Joe Roy for their help in organizing and implementing the fire drill on June 24<sup>th</sup> and to Greg for doing fire mitigation and training



*Tommy Joe gets fitted for a new saddle by Jennifer Wright of Happy Horse Tack, while Billie Myers looks on. Jennifer spent a full day at the ranch in May helping boarders get a good saddle fit. If you are interested in having Jen come back, contact Veronica Volny, who organized this activity (vhvolny@gmail.com).*

## Fire Drill Update

By Caroline Roy

**F**ire danger is very high! Greg recently completed fire training and reported that the moisture level in the grass is far below normal. Boulder County has issued a fire ban for the foreseeable future. The Board of Boarders at their May meeting decided that we needed a fire drill so that we are prepared in the event of a fire. A small group has met and created a *Wildfire Response Guide* which is being finalized. Key roles have been identified as part of the *Guide*.

At our first fire drill, held on June 24th, we assigned some individuals to serve in those roles in the event of a fire: Melinda Helmick/Connie Hopkins (Communications), Sandi Rosewell (Fairgrounds), Lori Bruhwiler (Lookout), Margaret Wilson (Horse Evacuation Coordination), Hope Ellis and Barbara Lennon (Traffic), Greg Joder, Karen Eiffert, and Caroline Roy (Fire Boss), Joe Roy (Emergency Procedure Advisor). (There is a full description of all of these roles posted on the wall in the lounge bathroom.) Thanks to all of these folks for the hours of time and effort they have put in to make sure we are well organized and ready in the event of a fire.

If you were not able to make the June fire drill, please plan on attending the next drill that is scheduled for July 15th at 3:00 p.m. Signup sheets are located in the lounge for all the areas needing volunteers. Please be sure to sign up if you plan to come to the ranch in the event of a fire, as you may not be allowed on the ranch if you do not have a role. Please mark your calendar to attend the July fire drill, review your personal fire plan, and assemble your fire emergency kit. Here is what to expect for the drill:

- A reverse 911 phone call the week before the fire drill letting you know about it.
  - A 15-minute training session at each key position/role about what to expect in the event of a fire.
  - A mock fire drill where we will role play the discovery of a fire on the ranch and walk through the actual process, ending with loading a horse or two into a trailer.
  - Inspection of each boarder's fire kit.
  - An opportunity to sign up for a task/role in the event of an actual fire at the ranch.
- Please bring the following to the fire drill:
- Your fire kit (the ranch fire plan, which includes a list of specific items that need to be in your kit; is available on the JAR website at [www.joderarabianranch.com](http://www.joderarabianranch.com)).
  - A brand card for each of your horses.

## Eco-Bits

By Greg Joder (photos also by Greg)

*Thanks to Greg Joder for keeping us informed through this column about plants and wildlife at Joder Arabian Ranch.*

### **The JAR and MMHEC Plant and Wildlife Field Guide Library and Survey Center**

I recently set up a miniature library of nine plant and animal field guides in the lounge. The purpose of the library and survey center is two-fold. First, it will offer everyone who visits and uses the ranch ready access to information that helps identify and describe the plants and animals that live, breed, and feed there. The second purpose is to acquire species data on an informal basis. With this information we can begin to get a better picture of the biodiversity the ranch supports. In order to do this, there is a *Plant and Animal Survey Logbook* along with the field guides. I would like to encourage anyone who is interested to record your observations in the log book using the field guides as resources to help identify the species you observed.



***Baby rattlesnake just after swallowing a mouse***

When noting your observation, please remember to include date, time, an approximate location on the Ranch, a description of the species, any interesting behavior you observed, and any other information you feel is relevant.

The current JAR/MMHEC field guide library includes: *Mammals of North America*, *Plants of the Rocky Mountains* (including wildflowers), *Guide to North American Raptors*, *Woody Plants of Colorado*, *Western Forests*, *Western Birds*, *Mammal Tracking*, *Trees of North America*, and *Western Reptiles and Amphibians* (with the rattlesnake pages already book-marked). If anyone has other relevant field guides they would like to donate, please feel free to add to the library.



***Dragonfly at Joder Ranch***

### **Why does the ranch truck smell like french fries?**

The ranch truck is now being run on environmentally friendly biodiesel fuel. Last fall Brian Joder located a source of biodiesel in Boulder at the Bartkus Oil Company at 3501 Pearl Street (303-442-6000). It is just like a gas station and centrally located in Boulder, so we would like to encourage other diesel truck drivers to consider running your truck on biodiesel. Ultimately, we would like to run all the ranch diesel equipment on biodiesel, but unfortunately right now Bartkus Oil does not deliver.

#### *Why Biodiesel?*

The following facts about biodiesel explain why we have chosen to use this type of fuel.

- It is made from used or new vegetable oils or animal fats as well as methanol and lye (used oils are abundantly available at major restaurants and diners).
- It can be used in any diesel vehicle without modification of the engine.

- It can be used alone or reliably mixed with any proportion of petroleum diesel.
- It is safe to handle and store and is biodegradable and non-toxic.
- It reliably cuts emissions on all diesel engines.
- It is considered an alternative fuel under the Environmental Protection Act, as long as it contains a minimum of 20% biodiesel, 80% diesel mix.
- It has been tested at major universities and is being used by the U.S. Postal Service, the U.S. Departments of Energy and Agriculture, countless school districts, transit authorities, national parks, public utility companies, and garbage and recycling companies.

(Source: [www.boulderbiodiesel.com](http://www.boulderbiodiesel.com))

## BCHA / CTRC News

By Sandi Rosewell

*Thanks to Sandi Rosewell for providing us with news each quarter from the Boulder County Horse Association and the Colorado Therapeutic Riding Center.*

### Boulder County Horse Association Update

- The current BCHA newsletter includes a list of Colorado State Parks Trails for riders as well as a great chart with vaccination recommendations from Dr. Nancy Loving.
- On June 18<sup>th</sup>, the Rabbit Mountain Equestrian Center hosted a BCHA-sponsored Equine Touch and TTouch seminar presented by Raian Kaiser as part of the BCHA educational program. The seminar was well received and well attended.
- On May 13<sup>th</sup>, Mountain Meadow Holistic Equestrian Center hosted a Balimo™ clinic, presented by Dawn Fisher and organized by Sandi Rosewell as part of the BCHA education program. Dawn (the lead dressage instructor at MMHEC) is a Core Instructor in the Balimo Degree Program. Caroline Roy, MMHEC manager, and Hallie Sabo, another MMHEC instructor, engaged in stretching

and loosening exercises and each used the Balimo Chair (see photo below of Dawn and Caroline) to help her achieve greater balance and flexibility in her riding. The audience was able to participate in identifying each rider's idiosyncrasies and improvements, and several people took a turn on the Balimo chair. (See *Contents of the JAR*, Spring 2006, pp. 5-6, for a report of a Balimo clinic held at MMHEC earlier this year.)



- The next seminar in the BCHA series will be held on July 15, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. "Clicker Training for Your Horse," with Cheryl Eastep, will be hosted by Mountain Meadow Holistic Equestrian Center at Joder Ranch.

### Colorado Therapeutic Riding Center Update

- We lost our dear Vandy in late May and are missing his stately presence. We would dearly love a nice strong quarter horse donation to replace this important part of our herd.
- Sandi will be teaching classes at CTRC on Saturdays throughout the summer. CTRC is always looking for volunteers; if interested contact Sandi or call Cari at 303-652-9131.
- This summer at CTRC, there will be the regular lessons serving riders with disabilities and the summer camps for riders of all abilities.
- All Abilities Summer Camps at CTRC that have not yet taken place include these camps: Round Up for Teens, July 17-27 (ages 12-19) Round Up, July 31-August 10 (ages 5-12) Little Buckaroos, August 14-17 (ages 4-7)

## RMSH Renewed, New Instructors Welcomed

**M**any years ago, Ann Best Joder created the Rocky Mountain School of Horsemanship (RMSH) at Joder Arabian Ranch, which flourished under Bob and Eloise Joder's guardianship. This school focused on horsemanship and riding styles that embraced the philosophy of Sally Swift's Centered Riding, Linda Tellington-Jones' TTouch, dressage, and natural horsemanship. This past spring, MMHEC instructors met for an offsite retreat to plan for an equestrian school which will embrace these philosophies and meet the needs of MMHEC and the broader community. Our instructors unanimously agreed, with Bob Joder's blessing, to continue to use the name Rocky Mountain School of Horsemanship for this school.

### New Instructors Welcomed

Three new instructors have joined resident MMHEC instructors Dawn Fisher (dressage), Hallie Sabo (English, dressage, beginner hunter/jumper), and Christy Jemail (natural horsemanship) to round out the instructional and training opportunities offered by the Rocky Mountain School of Horsemanship.

**Christy Cramer** teaches all levels of hunters and jumpers. She has been teaching in the Boulder County area for over 15 years and has been involved with the United States Pony Club, won championships at nationally recognized horse shows, and successfully campaigned English pleasure horses to world competitions. She has a passion for training young or problem horses following natural horsemanship techniques as well as a few techniques of her own. Christy is a member of CHJA, RMHSA, CPHA, USEF, and USEF/HJ. She is open to teaching any age group, ability level, or English style of riding and can be reached at 303-775-4277.

**Grace Maddox** now offers a unique beginner program to address the needs of children who have little or no experience with horses and riding. Her job will be to teach these beginners the care and safety issues attendant to being a good

equine partner. Students will learn to understand, respect, and appreciate horses for the individuals they are by observing and grooming them, interacting with them from the ground, and possibly sitting on a horse's back while being led. This is how all beginners start, whether they are five or fifty. A parent or guardian must stay with the child ages 2–5 for the duration of each lesson. You may contact Grace at 720-320-8857.

**Britany Johnstone** is now available for instruction in Western riding, including Western pleasure, trail, horsemanship, and showmanship. She graduated from CSU with a B.S. degree in Equine Sciences in 2001 and is a certified instructor from CSU and a NARHA certified instructor. She has developed a program combining her understanding of natural horsemanship techniques with her knowledge of horse show competitions. She encourages riders to keep an open mind and teaches them to communicate safely with horses through confidence, body language, balance, and correct body position while under saddle. Britany is also involved in 4-H. You can contact her at 303-210-5410.

In addition to the six resident instructors, Auxiliary Instructors Kim and Joe Andrews (Level II Centered Riding and natural horsemanship training) teach regularly at the ranch and RMSH also hosts visiting clinicians such as Jenny Baldwin, Amy Brown LeSatz, Alison Faso, and Judith Cross-Strehlke (see page 12).



*Christy Cramer gives a jumping lesson to Sherry Madison on Archie. Sherry, who is Susan O'Kelley's sister (Nubbs), leases Archie.*

## Judith Cross-Strehlke Clinic

By Julie Rudy

From June 15<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup>, MMHEC was fortunate to have a renowned Level IV Centered Riding™ clinician come to Joder Ranch. Judith Cross-Strehlke, who is also a certified NARHA and Horse Power instructor, presented a one-day clinic about using CR techniques to teach challenged populations and then gave private and semi-private riding lessons to many of our boarders.

The one-day clinic benefited Rocky Mountain Equi-Rhythm both financially and in the mentoring of Equi-Rhythm staff. The morning session was open to any instructor or rider who wanted to learn more about Centered Riding principles and philosophies. We had great fun practicing walking with “intention” versus walking aimlessly without a clear direction, and using elastic bands between two seated riders to simulate the feel of a “giving” rein. In the afternoon, eight participants took turns riding and observing while Judy used CR techniques as applied under saddle. These techniques are especially appropriate for teaching riders with challenges such as persons with disabilities, at-risk youth, and individuals with mental health diagnoses.

Judy brought some great advice to participants from her many travels around the country and abroad in the past year. A featured speaker at horse expos in the U.S., she says she is always learning from fellow experts who serve on these programs and finds it uplifting to be continually exposed to emerging ideas. Some advice Judy shared this year includes:

- Check your horse’s browband to be sure it is not so tight that it is causing pressure on sensitive nerves behind your horse’s ears
- Try lowering the bit in your horse’s mouth so that there are no wrinkles; this can free up your horse to be more forward
- Practice the “walk with a following seat,” a tried and true Sally Swift CR technique that helps your horse to move more freely; this involves “following the saddle down” as your horse moves his hips by moving your hips in rhythm with your horse.

- Try using the “six healing sounds” from the Healing Tao System adapted by Ada Citron; they can help you release an arched back, a stuck hip, a collapsed chest, all of which hinder a balanced ride.
- Be sure your hands and arms are elastic and giving, not tight and low, and that you are encouraging your horse to move into the bit from behind, rather than riding his withers down.

Judy also taught riders at Orvilla West, Green Tree Farm, and Plane View Farm. She may return in the fall if there is sufficient interest to bring her back again from Maine.



*Judy has Sandi Rosewell sit on the exercise ball to simulate the motion of the canter.*



*Grace Maddox uses elastic bands attached to Zwergie’s bit to simulate the feel of “giving” hands.*

## Welcome, New Boarders, New Horses!

By Julie Rudy

*We welcome these new horses, who have come to MMHEC since the last newsletter was published.*

### Archie, Harry Jones, Joe, and Mary Ann: Christy Cramer

According to Christy, “I bought **Arch** as a future sale horse when he was four years old. He is from a grand prix jumper farm that imports horses primarily from Canada. He is a 16.3 hh Canadian thoroughbred, dark bay in color, with some white here and there. He just turned 10 in April, so I guess we decided to keep him! In his younger years he was competitive in the hunter



ring, but he really didn't like the life of a show horse. I've used him lightly for lessons, and for the past year he has been leased to a client, Sherry Madison.”

**Harry** is an appendix-bred quarter horse, palomino in color, born in January of 1977.



Christy says, “He stands (or used to stand) 15.3 hh. I purchased him when I was 15 out of a world cup polo string that I groomed for. He had raced, stood at stud for three years, and played world cup polo for three years. I then took him on to compete for several years in the jumper ring. I started to use him as a lesson horse when he turned 23 and at 29 he still has lessons a few days a week. It is hard to describe a horse that has been with you for almost 22 years. Oh, the stories I could tell! Harry has touched so many people's lives and has truly been my best companion.” Harry has a disorder that causes him to fall asleep and fall down (narcolepsy), so do not be alarmed if you see him on his knees and face!

Christy describes **Joe** as “a ranch horse, steady and dependable. He is a little red horse who gives just enough to get the job done with no extras. He is probably a quarter horse, about 10 years old, who stands about 15 hh (he thinks



he is a 17 hh world class jumper!). I bought him in 2005 after leasing him from Sombrero Ranch for two years. He is my son Taylor's horse and he has become my main lesson horse. He is also Harry's bodyguard.”

**Mary** has an interesting story! According to Christy, “I went fox hunting in Temecula, California, with my best friend, Genie, in 2000. She said that I could hunt her boyfriend's horse as that was the only horse available for the weekend. I was thrilled! Fox hunting in southern California for the weekend with my best of friends! Well, no one told me that her boyfriend's horse was a 17.3 hh crazed warmblood mare who wouldn't tie, that you couldn't mount lest she flip over backwards, and who runs off like she



has some internal demons! I do have to say that after four hours of galloping up and down hills and jumping anything in our way that she was by far the best horse that I have ever ridden over fences. At dinner that evening I told the boyfriend that if he ever wanted to sell her he could contact me in Colorado. He called me a year and a half later saying that he had to get rid of her as she had flipped over on the trail spooking another horse whose rider was severely injured. She was sent out the next week and has been with me for four years. As it turned out she is a fabulously bred Holsteiner mare who was competitive as a young horse in the jumper ring and fox hunted for three years (which absolutely fried her). I have shown her to many ribbons and she just had a beautiful filly in 2005 out of Middle Fork Ranch's Oldenburg stallion, Donnersmark.

### **Auggie: Michelle Slaughter**

According to Michelle, "I have owned Auggie for 3 1/2 years. He is a Canadian thoroughbred,



13 years old, and stands at 16.3 hh. We did hunter/jumper until last fall when we met Dawn, and I started to enjoy dressage so much that I moved to MMHEC. I think we are both happy! Auggie has more dressage training than I do so I hope

he can help teach me; I know I've already learned a lot. During my first year of owning him, we had some injury problems, of course! But I decided at that point I wanted to be much more involved in his recovery, so I became a certified equine massage therapist. Now I offer services to others, and really love helping the horses work out issues that make them stiff, sore, etc."

### **Billy Miller: Ali and Jenna Miller**

According to Ali, "Billy Miller is a former Sombrero Ranch horse. We went out to the Niwot ranch to pick a horse out of the herd to lease for the summer. My daughter Jenna is 15 and will be a freshman at Silver Creek High School next year. She has dreamed of having a horse since she was little. I am 45 and have never owned my own horse before. I grew up in Malibu, California, which used to have a lot of ranches. I grew up riding and my sister had her own horse, but we could never afford a second one. Jenna and I always wanted to have a horse of our own. We decided to lease a horse we could both ride for the summer. So we went over to the ranch and selected Billy out of a group of horses Sombrero had handpicked for us. Billy had been living out the winter with the Sombrero horse herd up in Brown's National Park. He had been in an acci-



dent during a thunderstorm where he ran through a barbed wire fence. He was quite cut up and very underweight. He is only 6 1/2 years old and has probably had little previous training. Well, my daughter and I fell in love with him immediately. We decided to buy Billy from Sombrero.

Billy Miller has a wonderful disposition and is eager to learn. Since we moved Billy to Joder Ranch he has already gained nearly 75 pounds and his scars are healing up nicely. You wouldn't believe the transformation this horse has undergone in just a month! Billy is learning to jump and some basics he missed along the way. My daughter and I are having a great time learning along with our first horse."

**Cherokee Man, Jo Jo Cotton, Marengo, and Steppenwolf: Billie and Gran Semmes**

According to Billie, "Gran and I are from New Orleans, and since Hurricane Katrina we've



bought a house in Boulder. We are slowly getting the family and ourselves to believe that the next two years will be much nicer here rather than there. The horses were waiting to return to their life of freedom on our land in Slidell (they took care of each other during the storm

and relied on wild horse instinct to dodge about 2,000 falling trees and 4 1/2 feet of flood water), but the trees over the fence line are a tangled

mess so we moved them here with the hope of spending some time with them. I'm still trying to catch up on all sorts of things and we are waiting the arrival of many helmets on order before test riding our fearless four. I'm looking forward to spending some relaxing time at the barn and meeting everyone."



**Cherokee Man** is an American Saddlebred Paint, about 9 years old, who recently moved into Pen 9 after living in a stall initially. **Jo Jo Cotton**, who is a local horse ac-



quired since the Semmes moved to Boulder, is a gray Arabian gelding, 5 1/2 years old, who lives in a stall in the north barn and is turned out to Pen 1. **Steppenwolf**, a 19-year-old black Tennessee Walker gelding, and **Marengo**, a 12-year-old



gray Andalusian/Paso Fino gelding, also now live in Pen 9.

**Eli: Jessica Dye**



Eli is a light bay thoroughbred gelding with a star, with three white feet. According to Jessica, "I bought him when he was three, and he just had his ninth birthday on May 23rd. I can't believe he's that old! He's trained mostly in dressage

and has done just a bit of jumping. I have been riding for almost 15 years. Though I mostly ride dressage, I worked at a polo barn for a few years. There I was able to ride many different horses, tried playing the game, and in the fall went on fox hunts (no foxes were ever harmed, the scent was dragged). I am very interested in doing more jumping and trail riding. Until our recent move, Eli and I lived in southeastern Massachusetts at a small (10 horses) co-operative barn, Pine Meadow Farm. I chose JAR not for its size but for the people involved. Everyone has been most welcoming and helpful.”

### **Nubbs: Susan and Erin O'Kelley**

Nubbs is a 10-year-old quarter horse cross gelding, about 1200 pounds and 15.3 hh, whose ears were frostbitten just after he was born on the range. Susan reports that her nine-year-old daughter, Erin, has been riding for almost two years but she is new to riding: “I just sat on a



horse for the first time a few months ago; I'm very green. Erin and I knew Nubbs at our previous barn. When his owner could no longer keep him, our trainer, Christy Cramer, rescued Nubbs and set out looking for a family for

him. Erin and I were already smitten, admiring his stubby ears and survivor attitude, so when he needed a home we could hardly say no. We are so pleased to have Nubbs in our family. He has navicular syndrome which we manage with orthopedic shoes, daily isoxuprine, and regulated riding demands. Nubbs was a trail/pack/hunting horse when he was owned by Sombrero Ranch. We think he has done a little bit of everything, or at least he acts like he has – the survivor in him coming out again. Erin and I plan to continue improving our riding skills and developing our

relationship with Nubbs. Erin likes to jump; I am happy to simply manage to stay in the saddle. We are all working on our confidence issues and look forward to enjoying Joder's trail system in the future. We came to Joder when our trainer, Christy Cramer, moved here. My sister, Sherry Madison, moved to Joder as well. We are sometimes mistaken for twins so we hope we don't confuse too many people. Once we are in the saddle, it's very easy to tell who is who. Sherry has been riding far longer than I!”

### **Pave: Dawn Fisher**

Pave had his first birthday on April 18th, right before he arrived at Joder, where he was immediately gelded – not a very pleasant first day at MMHEC! According to Dawn, “He's technically a Hanoverian/TB cross. His mom was a mare I bought when she was a baby and I schooled her through 4th level and then bred her. I sold her before I moved to Colorado to a student. Pave's



dad is Donnersohn out of the famous Hanoverian stallion Donnerhall. Pave was the first colt born to Donnersohn! Pave looks just like his dad and has his laid back personality, too. He loves his brother Juan, but big brother Gunnar bullied him around when they lived together in Pen 12. Now he is moving in with the Joder herd in Pen 10 so he can run and play like a baby should! Until he's older, Pave will just hang out, grow, and be a baby horse. If he has his mom's spirit to work and his dad's super movement, he should make an excellent dressage horse! All we can do is wait and watch him grow.

### **Sunny B: Equi-Rhythm / KOTHR**

Sunny B is 20 years old and is a western kind of guy who has participated in many 4-H events and is an all-around cowpony. Caroline reports, “Sunny belonged to an elderly man who owned and loved him for many years, but he had a stroke and had to give Sunny away. He was adopted by Knick o’ Time Horse Rescue and Rehabilitation, a local organization that has partnered with RMER to foster rescued horses, with the goal of integrating them into the RMER programs or finding them a suitable adoptive family. Sunny will likely be adopted by RMER. His feet were in very bad condition when he arrived and he is being sponsored by Kelly Kanizay, an MMHEC boarder, in the RMER adopt-a-horse program.



### **Tim: Veronica Volny**

According to Veronica, “Tim, an 11-year old Trakehner gelding, arrived at Joder in the last snow storm of the spring, in late April. He is the first horse I have ever owned, and I promptly ‘moved in’ at the ranch, learning how to be a horse owner and showing Tim around his new home. When my husband Aaron and I moved to Boulder in 2005, I decided to fulfill my lifelong ambition of learning how to ride and care for horses. Wiley Gillmor, our neighbor at the time, introduced me to the ranch and to Nina Lewis, who became my first riding



instructor. Nina was such a patient and gifted teacher (she didn’t send me packing as she watched me put on my boots over my half chaps before my first lesson). I began taking lessons with Dawn Fisher after Nina left for medical school and I began to lease Babe. After several more months of learning and training, I embarked on a search for a horse of my own. After exhausting options in Colorado, I looked farther afield. A 16.3 hh bay gelding with big, floppy ears caught my eye and soon I was off to Ohio to visit Timothy Tee. As soon as I climbed into the saddle and began walking around the arena, I had the feeling that this was ‘the one.’ Tim had a wonderful personality, moved beautifully, and kept turning those big ears of his around to listen to me. I was smitten. I anxiously awaited Dawn’s arrival in Ohio and hoped for her nod of approval. Tim now lives in an individual care pen, and turns out with his friends in Pen 7. He seems to enjoy rolling around, taking naps in the hay, and rubbing noses with Miss Star Eyes. We are taking dressage lessons together – Tim has experience showing through first level and has lots to teach me. And although Tim had had very little trail experience before coming to Colorado, we have now explored almost every trail on the ranch. We might compete in a few horse shows next summer, but our main goal is to have fun working and playing together and with our friends here.”

### **Winnie: Alexa Schild**

Christy Cramer, who is Alexa’s trainer, tells this story about finding Winnie for Alexa. “We found Winnie at a Shire breeding farm in Rifle. When we got there, three little boys no older than 10 were tromping out of the field with a bucket and a halter. Their mother said that they all go to the field, halter the horse, climb up on the bucket, and ride Winnie around the field together.



Perfect! We rode her, jumped her, had a pre-purchase exam done, and that day took her home to Boulder. She has been so wonderful for the past seven years. She loves to jump, and jump *big!* She stands about 16 hh and is all black with four white socks and a blaze. She was bred in Franktown, out of a TB mare 14 years ago.” Winnie lives in a stall and turns out to Pen 1.

## KOTHRR Update

By Stephanie Wendorf

*Knick o' Time Horse Rescue and Rehabilitation (KOTHRR) is a partner of Rocky Mountain Equi-Rhythm. From time to time, Equi-Rhythm sponsors a KOTHRR horse that promises to be serviceable in the Equi-Rhythm program.*

**H**ere are a couple of hopeful Knick o' Time Horse Rescue and Rehabilitation horses currently available for adoption. Please remember, all adoptions require applications with references and adoption contracts. We invite you to come out and meet our horses and ponies in person, or feel free to visit our website ([www.knickotimehorserescue.org](http://www.knickotimehorserescue.org)).

**JJ** is an older AQHA mare, very well broken, who has always been well taken care of. She has been with the same family her entire life, and was very sadly donated to KOTHRR after they moved and could not take her with them. According to her family, she is an excellent trail horse and is great around kids. She is full of life and obviously no one has told her old she is! She has had extensive training over the years, although she has not been ridden for a couple of years. We would love to see her find a forever loving home soon! Her adoption fee is \$450. **NOTE: JJ has just moved to Joder Ranch where she is being fostered by Equi-Rhythm and will live in Pen 8 until she is adopted.**

**Twist** is an adorable 7-year-old registered POA gelding. He has extensive training in English, western, and trails, and has many, many show championships under his young belt! He was sadly donated by a wonderful family, after he was diagnosed with arthritis in his hock. He is serviceably sound for walk/trot and trails,

but should not be used for any sort of serious training, showing, jumping, and so forth. He is bombproof and I can't say enough about how well trained and fun he is to ride! He is currently sponsored by the Reilly family and will be available for adoption over the next couple of months.

KOTHRR also has two grade quarter horses (a 10-year-old mare and a 12-year-old gelding) up for adoption. For more information about these horses, as well as several horses we have for sale at RoanOake Farm, contact me at 303-359-2273 or send email to [roanoakefarm@aol.com](mailto:roanoakefarm@aol.com).

## Memorials



**Fella**  
**1990? – 2006**

**G**oodbye to Fella, faithful companion of Beau, who died suddenly on a Saturday night in May, surrounded by his friends in Pen 11. Fella had a hard life early on but lived well the last few years with the Woods family and finally at Joder Ranch after the Woods donated him to Equi-Rhythm. We will miss you, Fella!

*Caroline Roy*

**W**hen Fella arrived one evening about a year ago with Beau, all the horses in the south-east pens went goofy, acting like they had never seen anything so small in their lives. They ran and snorted and looked and ran some more. But by morning all was well. Later, after Fella

moved to Pen 11, he helped the horses be accepting of the other ponies (French Fry and Carmela). I will forever feel his soft little muzzle in my pocket. He was blind in one eye and could not see well out of the other, but he knew where my pocket was and he knew the pocket meant horse cookies. His friends in Pen 11 – Charlie, Beau, Desiree, Carmela, and French Fry – took great care of him. I know they must miss him. Now that he has his wings I know he watches over the ranch. I miss your furry little face, Fella.

*Billie Myers*



**Madrasi**  
1975 -  
2006

**M**adrasi, you were a good old boy, as horses go. You had a few bad years when you were away from the ranch, but fortunately you were rescued and brought back to good health. Over the past four to five years we had many good rides together. You did manage to lose your grazing privileges and get me the western soil award when a bug went up your nose while we had stopped to eat and you jumped sideways and I went otherways. You also did a wheelie down by the big drainage ditch near the entrance to the ranch. It was fall and there were berries on the bushes. There was something in those bushes you didn't like. You were still upset when we got back to the stable, but Leahmanda was there and

you calmed down when she put her hands on you. Often you set the agenda for our rides and we would wonder aimlessly around the ranch. Sometimes we had discussions on which way to go and I would tell you to act like an Arab horse and not like a mule. When we were with other horses, you generally just plodded along behind. But the day that my friend Lynn brought her mare, Tara, to the ranch to ride with us you stepped out very lively. You led the way around the mountain as if you were showing off the ranch to Tara. Shortly after Rifala died we rode to the ridge and you whinnied and whinnied. Were you calling to her? On January 22, 2005 we had a relationship blessing ceremony officiated by the Reverend Jackie Ziegler. Of course you were more interested in the treats than in the ceremony. Last summer we rode around the mountain with the camp kids and that was our last trip. As fall came we did less and less hill climbing, but you were still eager to go. Soon it was time to go. I led you out to the north end of the stables and you stood still, head up, and looked over the ranch. Were you saying goodbye? Had owl called your name? (Kwakiutl North West Coast Indian Legend)

*Marge Maagoe*

*681 UU Hymnal*

Deep peace of the running wave to you  
 Deep peace of the flowing air to you  
 Deep peace of the quiet earth to you  
 Deep peace of the shining stars to you  
 Deep peace of the infinite peace to you  
 (adapted from Gaelic Runes)

Thank you to those who donated money to Equi-Rhythm in memory of these horses.

- In memory of Madrasi: Al and Sarah Bowman, Marge Maagoe, Billie Myers, and Julie Rudy
- In memory of Fella: Billie Myers and Julie Rudy

Donations continue to be made in the memory of Bokamir for the Bokamir Education and Scholarship Fund. Thank you to our most recent donor, Julie Rudy. This fund has helped many youth to attend summer horse camp who would otherwise not be able to.

## Upcoming MMHEC-Related Events

Clicker Train Your Horse	July 15
MMHEC Fire Drill	July 15
Hall Ranch Trail Ride	July 16
Amy LeSatz Clinic	July 29
Summer Horse Camps	July 10, 17 August 7, 14
County Fair 4-H Show	July 25-30
Pony Club Rideouts	July 25, Aug 22, September 19
Bon Voyage Party	August 12
Trail Maintenance Days	August 19, September 16
Boulder Probation Retreat	September 28

Blazing Saddles 4-H meetings are held the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

MMHEC Board of Boarders meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of each month.

## MMHEC Board of Boarders

Lori Bruhwiler	303-497-6921
Melinda Helmick	303-682-2827
Connie Hopkins	303-494-1211
Larry Langer	720-406-7897
Sandi Rosewell	303-823-6138
Veronica Volny	303-443-7866
Margaret Wilson	303-669-0327

JAR, MMHEC, and RMER do not endorse the products or services or warrant the competency of any establishment or individual mentioned herein. Please submit articles to the editor by September 1st for the fall newsletter ([jrudy@educause.edu](mailto:jrudy@educause.edu)).



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