Western Day Report

Despite the superstitious number, the 13th Annual fund-raiser brought good luck and fortune to B.O.K. Ranch this year. The weather was perfect and 400 guests attended the event. Western Day is our biggest fund-raiser for the year where we hope to bring in about a third of the budget.

The gross income total was 15,215. From: 9,949-donations, 3,100-silent auction 1,566- drawing, 600-B.B.Q. donations. Expenses totaled 4,328. From: 385-postage, 500-T-shirts, 2,435-Barbecue, 500-band, 508-pr. caps and misc. The net income total for this year was $10,887.

Thanks go out to all who participated. First thanks to our hosts each year, the founders of B.O.K. Ranch, Ann and Larry Kulchin. Special Thanks to Jerry Mertins and the NFL alumni, Create a Smile Foundation, Redwood City Fire Department, Ray Hoyt Photography, Tim Harrison Canyon Inn, Pacific Printing. Zdenka Polanski invitation design. Black Mountain Spring Water, Safeway, Sony Computer Entertainment, Alyssa Rueda Publicity, Andy Anderson with Christine and Patrick Holland's sheep herding demonstration, Chantal Ferr and volunteers for the kids carnival.

Western Day is also the time of year when the volunteers are recognized for their many hours of dedication and service. Our volunteers are extremely valuable to the program. Congratulations to Andy Anderson for receiving special recognition as the Volunteer of the year. This longevity award is given to the volunteer who goes the "extra mile". Andy has volunteered for 4 years and helped not only at the program, sometimes 3 days a week but also trailering our horses to special events and out to pasture for the winter. Thanks Andy! The Jr. volunteer of the year award went to Maricia Ybarra. Congratulations to this teenage volunteer who put in 4 years of service and over 800 hours of volunteer time! We miss her now that she is off at college in Oregon.

Every year Western Day gets better and better. Already we have some new surprises developing as we plan for the 14th annual event. The Advisory board has suggested some ways to improve next year. We need to bring in more people and somehow have sponsors for some of our expenses. If you would like to help with next year's fund-raiser, please contact Ann Kulchin at the office; (650) 366-2265

Scheduling Makes a Difference -
A Parent's Perspective by Judee Lund

Our daughter Jennifer has been riding at the B.O.K. Ranch for 3 years now. Last year, we decided to try her in a 2 p.m. class. We found her energy level up and so much more progress not only in her riding but also in her every day activities. We notice that before the riding day we don't have to remind her about getting to bed on time or getting her clothes and boots ready. She always remembers to get her pass from the high school office to get out early and her teachers have scheduled her classes around the riding program. They (her teachers) have seen positive changes in Jennifer and they really support and value her riding. I realize how much B.O.K. has improved our outlook on life and find that we are always learning. Less school time doesn't mean less quality time when your child is so happy and gaining confidence by applying riding and living skills together.

Welcome Sugar!

B.O.K. Finds a New Therapy Horse. Thanks to the fund-raising efforts of volunteer Fidela Schneider, B.O.K. Ranch received a grant for $5,000 from the Bothin Foundation. After searching for months, looking, and trying many horses, we found our fourth horse! The money allowed us to purchase this 10-year-old bay Quarter Horse mare with a thorough vet check including numerous x-rays. She fitted pretty quickly this fall and was used with several students at different levels. Sugar continues to be in training for therapeutic riding but already has several student fans.