

The B.O.K. Briefing

Fall/Winter 2002

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WESTERN DAY REVIEW



Western Day 2002 was a great success! The riding demonstration went very well given the group effort by instructors Carol, Diane, Kelly, and Angela and of course the students and our wonderful horses!

attendance.

To her surprise Angie Moore won the award of Volunteer of the Year for 2002! Please check out the website for more! ¶



WELCOME NEW STAFF MEMBERS

BOK is happy to announce the arrival of some new staff members in 2002! Angela and Kelly are our two new instructors, and Erin is our new volunteer coordinator!

Angela Sherman was born and raised in Sao Paulo, Brasil, before going to college in upstate New York at Skidmore College where she majored in Psychology and worked at the school barn. She moved to the Bay area last August to begin working on her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. This is her second year at the Pacific Graduate School of Psychology in Palo Alto.



She has been interested in the human-animal bond for quite a few years and is a member of NARHA and EFMHA. She spent a summer volunteering at a Therapeutic Riding Center called Great Strides in Middletown, Connecticut in 1999.

She has been involved at BOK Ranch for a little over a year, first as a volunteer, then as the volunteer coordinator and assisting with horse care, and now as an instructor. She is team teaching with Kelly on Saturdays, and they

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CONGRATULATIONS SHALE

Shale is the Region 11 Therapy Horse of the Year! This is a huge honor for Shale and B.O.K. Ranch. Thank you Susan O' Sullivan and Allison Lau for helping nominate Shale. Shale has won half ton of Purina Feed and a blanket. She also is eligible for a full ton of feed and the National Award. More details on the website! ¶



BOK PROMOTIONS

We are excited to announce that Allen C. Mueller and Jarmo Siimento of Pacific Digital Video have made a great nine-minute video of the B.O.K. Ranch program!

If you would like a copy to show people who may be interested in donating to our program please call the office. We have also completed a Public Relations Packet. We are in need of funds. Please help us get the word out so this wonderful program can keep going strong. ¶

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both went through the NARHA instructor training course and instructor certification test at Equi-Ed in Calistoga this summer. She is excited about her involvement at BOK. Her future goals are to incorporate her clinical work with horse related activities.



Kelly Forman is a 28-year-old originally from Portland, Oregon now living in Santa Cruz. She went to school at Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana, where she completed the riding instructor program her freshman year. She has been teaching horseback riding lessons since the start of her sophomore year, 1993.

Upon graduating with a BA in a combined sociology/psychology major called HDSR (Human Development and Social Relations) she went on to pursue her Master's in Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

Working as a bank teller in St. Louis Kelly met a woman who asked her to teach her son, who was deaf with a cochlear implant, how to ride. It was Kelly's first time combining her passions of working with horses and teaching special needs children. She had been involved with the Muscular Dystrophy Association in Portland since 1989, but didn't begin researching therapeutic riding programs until living in St. Louis.

When she moved to Santa Cruz in 1999 she immediately found a barn where she could teach special needs children basic horseback riding. Over the last three years she learned they were not committed to becoming NARHA certified. Their programs were also not adaptable to children with special needs.

Finally Kelly met Ann, Carol, and Angela last winter and began working as an instructor-in-training last spring. She had been working towards her certification when she decided to quit working at two barns and come to BOK full time for the Fall Session of 2002. She couldn't be happier!

She has learned a tremendous amount from Carol and feels like she has finally found an environment where other people have the same passion, dedication, and commitment as she does to teach therapeutic riding. She hopes to continue learning through NARHA and the experiences at BOK with the best students, horses, and the most incredible volunteers she has ever met!

Erin Stratta, a sophomore at Santa Clara University, is from Omaha, Nebraska. She's been involved with horses from a very young age, from pony club to competing in the North American Young Riders Championships in three-day eventing in 1999 and 2000.

She began researching therapeutic riding when her former riding coach wanted to start a program in Omaha. She was introduced to BOK Ranch when her mother met Carol at the annual NARHA conference last November. Since Erin was in nearby Santa Clara and their on-campus community service organization worked with BOK, there was a natural interest for her to get involved.

She volunteered throughout the spring sessions and was overjoyed to be offered the job of volunteer coordinator at BOK. She loved the program and knew the experience would be beneficial to her work with Take Flight Farms, the non-profit in Omaha.

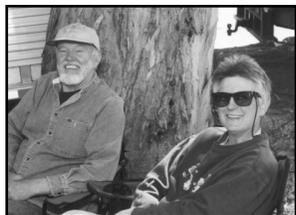
She has not been disappointed. While she's learned that volunteer coordinating is not easy, she's also learned what a vital part the volunteers play in any organization. She is really enjoying working with the volunteers from the beginning and seeing how rewarding their experiences at BOK are.

The winter break will give her time to organize a more efficient volunteer system, and she is very optimistic about the spring session. ¶



THANK YOU

Bob and Nicky Riel ~ San Carlos Rotary Club ~ Becky and Timothy Legette ~ Barbara Sweet
Madeleine Morse ~ Kristina and Paul Crisci ~ Kiwanis Club of Burlingame ~ Western Athletics Club
Dale & Chris Walker (pictured below left) for their trailering services!



HORSE SPONSORS FOR 2003

Shale ~ Valerie Morgan
Zeke ~ Ann & Larry Kulchin
PJ ~ Jamie Morris
Sugar ~ Jennifer Hutton
Jerry ~ Jerry still needs a sponsor!!

SPECIAL THANKS TO

The Morgan Family Fund ~ The Wittman Family ~ Jennifer Hutton

TO THOSE BEHIND THE SCENES

Special thanks go to our Volunteer Board of Directors (pictured) and to our Volunteer Advisory Board. The Board of Directors has worked behind the scenes since the beginning, with our Treasurer Allison Aiello doing the accounting gratis. The Advisory Board has helped make Western Day a success for the past four years, in addition to helping make the program run smoothly day-to-day.

Thank You!

Ann Kulchin



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter we will be transferring the "mailing" to cyberspace. To begin receiving the newsletter via E-Mail, please either mail the completed form below, or E-Mail the Newsletter Editor at Jamie@BOKRanch.com with the same information. Do not forget to include your name (as it appears on the address label) in the E-Mail.

Name (First and Last) _____

E-Mail Address 1 _____

E-Mail Address 2 _____

I do not have e-mail and would still like to receive the newsletter on paper:

Once you have completed the form please mail it to:

Jamie Morris
22481 Pleasant Park Road
Conifer, CO 80433

Please do not mail it to the office! Thank you!

I AM INTERESTED IN BOK RANCH!!

I would like to:

Volunteer

Participate in the Program

Contribute

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Please make checks payable to B.O.K. Ranch, Inc.
Contributions are tax deductible for federal tax purposes.

B.O.K. Ranch is a Non-Profit Corporation EIN# 94-2947980

WISH LIST

Truck

At least a ½ ton with a V8 engine, able to pull a 2 horse trailer.

Equine Senior

Biotin

Glucosamine-Chondroitin

Select NuFlex Brand

Rainbow Reins

Sponsorship for Jerry

\$2,500 Per Year

Sponsorship for a Student

\$250 Per Session

\$1,250 Per Year

People to help us market our program and help with the fundraising we need!



B.O.K. Ranch (650) 366-2265
1815 Cordilleras Road
Redwood City, CA 94062
www.bokranch.com

Address Correction Requested