

B.O.K. BRIEFING Volume III, Issue 4



Carol Crowther Joins The B.O.K.

Carol Crowther started in June of this year as our assistant instructor. She is also helping out with horse shows. Carol has had many years experience as a rider and owner. She has been a certified CHA Camp Horsemanship Association member since 1990; taught at several youth camps including Therapon Association group homes in Marin county where she was assistant manger of adolescent homes for the developmentally disabled. She holds a BA in psychology from Colby-Sawyer in New Hampshire.

Over the past six months Carol began the process of taking duties over from Heidi Eckert. She's excited about B.O.K.: "The kids really rise to the challenge. I'm looking forward to setting goals for each student and watching them progress." Already Carol has spearheaded "Playday" and has attended the NARHA Therapeutic Riding Workshop in Kentucky. The B.O.K. students are not missing a step under Carol's direction!

When Carol is not working at the B.O.K., she fills in her time at Golden Gate Park Stables. She has a personal goal to be certified through NARHA.



Carol Crowther

Student/Volunteer Playdays '93

By Carol Crowther It is amazing what ideas a box of horse show ribbons will generate Thanks to Fly'nn J.D. Ranch who donated lots of left-over ribbons. Heidi and J decided

to create an end of the session Playday. On August 28th, students, volunteers, family and friends all came out to Hidden Villa to partake in

the Playday games and activities. Despite the heat, which was close to 100° F, there was a terrific turn out of students and volunteers. Approximately 50 people participated. Each participant was assigned a number and at least two events. Some events included egg and spoon races, an obstacle course

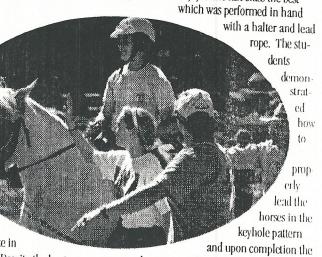
with a jump, and the most popular - flag relay. Heidi will probably never forget having to hop across the arena in a burlap sac holding a flag.

August 28th was also a day for 300d-byes and thank-yous to Heidi. Heidi was surprised with a "Farewell and Good Luck cake, and a gift certificate to Olson Nolte tack shop. Hugs and best wishes to Heidi in her new endeavors.

Special thanks to; Heidi's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eckert, who handled the food details, James Alacon and Valerie Chalonis, the volunteer judges; Justine Felahi our volunteer coordinator who became announcer for the day; and hidden Villa's property maintenance crew, especially Michael Quinn, for tilling the arena for the event.

Because Summer Playday was such a success, on November 20th, we marked the end of the Fall session with another Playday. Most of the Fall session volunteers and about 15 students participated. This was an opportunity for parents, siblings, friends and perspective volunteers and students to come together and see what makes B.O.K. ranch such a special place. Events of the day were based on the holiday theme. Games included, 'Go Fishing', Turkey Feather Hunt', 'Pumpkin Obstacle Course',

and 'Bobbing for Apples'. I think our hairy friends, Zeke, PJ and shale enjoyed the last class the best



horses were allowed to Bob for an apple treat. Needless to say it was quite entertaining for all.





Good Bye and Best Wishes Heidi

We are sorry to say that Heidi Eckert has resigned her position at the B.O.K. in order to pursue married life and new opportunities in Southern California. She will be continuing her work by starting up a new therapeutic riding organization bringing her talents and energy to the area. She has bid farewell to many a thankful and loving children that have enjoyed her bright enthusiasm and energy. Heidi was instru mental in making the B.O.K. program what it is today. She xas not only a strong in technical riding skills but she had a care ability in being able to relate to children. The rigors of the English style she taught has become a B.O.K. tradition that Carol Crowther now continues. Heidi brought out the best of each pupil and then some. She also made it her business to help raise funds and create new learning challenges. Many of you will remember Heidi running all day long between arena and predatory area at riding demonstrations and competitions. Under her tutelage, the students of the B.O.K. received more riding awards and accommodations that can be remembered in the history of the Ranch. But most of all, her greatest legacy must be that of the children who she helped gain courage, strength and a feeling of self worth through their riding abilities. Our love and best wishes follow Heidi on to her new challenges.



I saw a child riding in the arena last year, her pudgy face was filled with determination and her gangly, pencil-necked horse was uncoordinated hut willing.

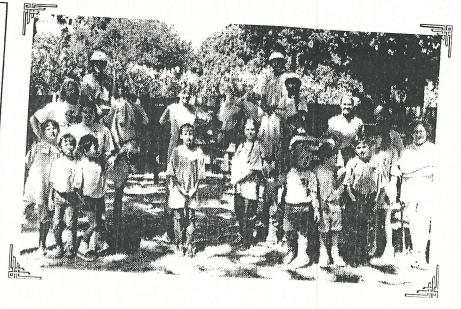
Under her instructors' watchful eye she pracliced relenllessly day after day.

Now, a year later, a taller, thinner but still very determined young lady rides a nicely muscled well schooled equine.

So to all of you parents who patiently wait, spending hours in the dust and rain, swatting flies, please keep this in mind: Your children are blossoming into responsible young ladies and gentlemen.

Thank You.

Heidi Ann Eckert



A Note From The Editor

John Mori

We at the B.O.K. would all like to thank all of you for your wonderful support that you have given us in 1993 which has enabled us to extend this program to more children and adults than ever before. From all of us to all of you, a happy, safe and peaceful holidays and bright and pleasant New Year.

VOLUNTEER CONNECTION

We would like to extend welcome and appreciation to to our new volunteers. Helping us this Spring and Summer session are Darlene, Julie, Marni, Janette, Melinda F., Melinda W., Barbra, Sandra, Sabina, Brooke and Kristina.

And once again to our veteran volunteers: many heartfelt thanks. Here's to you Fred, Jim, Fidela, Judy, Shannon, Lauren, Vivan, Carole and Carolyn. These dedicated people have contribuited more than 500 hours to the past winter session alone.

We are always looking for volunteers. It is only through the volunteer efforts that this program is possible. So, if you can or know someone else who might be interested in a rewarding opportunity to help, please call Justine Felahi, the Volunteer Coordinator, at (415) 325-6113.

CALENDAR OF EVENIS

William P. Kyne HKP at Bay Meadows Jan. 8, 1994

Night at the Races at Bay Meadows Jan. 14, 1994

El Camino Real Derby Club Tickets available thru the Derby Club Jan. 22, 1994

Equipment Work Day (Tentative)
Feb. 12, 1994



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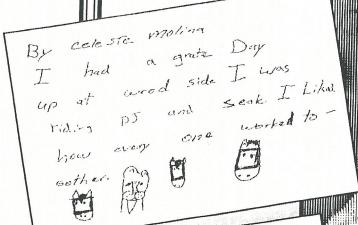
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Address letters, suggestions, articles, and inquiries to B.O.K. Ranch at the address above.

Kids Corner



By Shannon their BOK

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Commentary on Barn Tour Day by Shannon Meir and Celeste Molina.

Donations



Thank yous to the following for their generous donations:

Mr. and Mrs. David Piccardo,
Kathleen Kalab,
Mr. and Mrs. Leland Kolb,
Linda Harvey,
Nada's for Paws,
Jane Pharr,
Lisa Montalvo

Barn Tour Luncheon

The B.O.K. was pleased to be invited to the 1993 Barn Tours Luncheon. Our many thanks to the Los Altos Hounds who played a major role in our invitation and to our own Justine Felahi who was the chairperson and chief organizer for the B.O.K. This tour is an annual event that allows patrons to tour some of the most exclusive private stables in the Woodside area while supporting charitable organizations in the process. The B.O.K. was very fortunate to be invited to participate in the event. During the day riding demonstrations were performed and information about the B.O.K. was distributed to the many interested observers. Over 250 lunches were made and served by the B.O.K. volunteers in a peaceful pool side and country setting. In the processes over \$1300 was raised for the organization. To the many volunteers and guests who made this event an outstanding success the B.O.K. Ranch extends its many thanks. This is a wonderful way to complete a splendid year.

A heartfelt thank you to the volunteers that make B.O.K. Ranch a successful program. **Board of Directors Advisory Board** Did you know that behind the scenes: Vince Lepera and Don Maier at Pacific Printing design and Sue Bragato Beverly Aiello provides for the President print our newsletters. Carol Crowther R&R for the ponies when Beverly Aiello Justine Felahi Carol Crowther, our GREAT they're not at Hidden Villa?. Secretary Brook Fox Therapeutic Riding instruc-Allison Aiello does all the Sue Bragato Judy Hansen tor puts in many, many accounting for the B.O.K. hours of volunteer time Jan Mangini Treasurer beyond her part-time salary John Mori Libby Machado is farrier (shoes Allison Aiello for program planning, indi-Judi Pheil the ponics) vidual student evaluation, Directors maintenance of equipment, Valrie Massey provides the pho-Betsy De Jarnette and on and on. tography Larry Bragato And finally, Ann Kulchin the life blood behind the B.O.K. Justine Felahi seeks and coordi-Richard Gardella We would like to add our nates the many volunteers Ann Kulchin who attends everything, fills special thanks to the above for the riding program. Larry Kulchin in whenever needed, repre-Diana Olsen volunteers who have provided many sents the B.O.K. for support, Sharon Ondry provides the works to develop programs and oversees all aspects of the Jan Olsen office work. behind the scenes efforts to make the Leslie Schoon Steve Ondry maintains all speoperation. Ann is also the B.O.K. program successful. Michael Sterns cial equipment. inventor of the 25 hour day. B.O.K. Ranch 1815 Cordilleras Road Redwood City, CA 94062 YES! I can help the B.O.K. Ranch! Please contact me regarding: Volunteer some time with students. Volunteer time in the evenings to help out. Equestrian and/or office equipment you can contribute. Horse sponsorship program. Donations of any amount are always welcome at the B.O.K. Ranch. You may make checks payable to: B.O.K. Ranch. They may be earmarked for any of the following areas: Riding Sessions Special Events (e.g. Playday) Volunteer Training Equipment General Expenses Educational Clinics

to be used for

Please find enclosed my check for

The B.O.K. Ranch is a non-profit corporation. EIN# 94-2947980.