WESTERN DAY 1993 FUND RAISING BLOW OUT

By John Mori

The 1993 Western Day fund raiser was the biggest yet for the B.O.K. Over 350 people showed their support by attending the festivities. The gates were opened at twelve noon to balloon lined walkways, country and western music, the smell of charcoal and beautiful blue skies filtered by the gentle swaying branches of trees. All in all B.O.K. netted over $9600. Our thanks for all the support.

Riding demonstrations were performed on Zeke, P.J. and a very elegant Shale. Congratulations to our man Fred, who was awarded Volunteer of the Year. The award and many hugs were presented by Heidi and the children.

The Silent Action was held with Ruth Carney and Frank Aiello leading their fellow players in successful bids. Prizes included two hot air balloon rides plus brunch. Entertainment was provided by James Murdoch, clown; the Hay Fever Band, led by Dale Pryor; the Radio KEEN Country Dancers; a guide dog for the blind demonstration and a lamb sheering demonstration, both provided by the San Carlos Eaton Hills 4-H club. Lunch was prepared by Tim Harrison of Canyon Inn restaurant.

We extend our thanks to Tim of Canyon Inn, Crystal Geysers, the Derby Club at Bay Meadows, the “Hay Fever” Western Band, Hope Lutheran Church, “Jimbo” the clown, the KEEN Country Dancers, NFL Alumni Association, St. Mathias Church, San Carlos - Eaton Hills 4-H, Steve Ondry and White Oak Press.

Volunteer Coordinator Change

Judi Phel is taking a long deserved break as Volunteer Coordinator. Justine Felahi is taking her place. Under Judi’s direction, a constant flow of volunteers made their way to the B.O.K. Over 25 volunteers per eight week session are needed. Her ceaseless energy and devotion is appreciated by all. Judi will continue to volunteer at B.O.K., so you will see her around.

Future volunteer inquiries or suggestions should be directed to Justine Felahi at 415-325-6113.

WESTERN DAY RIDING DEMONSTRATIONS

by Carol Crowther

The B.O.K. student demonstration at Western Day this year had the most student participation ever. Eighteen students participated in the riding demonstration. Those who rode included; Celeste, Nathan R., Dave, George, Rocky, Lindsay, Pilar, Shannon, Pam, Cassie, Michelle, Alison, Kyle, Amy, Nathan C., Michael, Dominic and Matthew.

Three riders at a time entered the ring. A series of obstacles were set up in the ring and each rider showed his/her abilities to balance, steer, walk and halt. Some students trotted over ground poles and cross-rail jumps. Other students demonstrated cantering and jumping. Because of the large group of participants, the riding continued for over an hour. Time flies when you’re having fun!

Between the groups of student riders, a few parents spoke about their child’s progress at B.O.K. and how equine facilitated therapy has benefitted their child’s growth. Parents who spoke included Judy Hanson, Pam Boyle and Jan Mangini. Also many thanks to the numerous teachers that came to show support for their pupils.

This was also the first year Shale made an appearance at Western Day.
Volunteer Connection

We would like to extend welcome and appreciation to our new volunteers. Helping us this Spring session were Darlene, Julie, Marni, Janette, Melinda E, Melinda W, Barbara, 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, Vivian, Carole and Carolyn. These dedicated people have contributed more than 500 hours to the past spring session.

We are still looking for volunteers for the coming fall session from September 23 to November 20. 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.

WOW! - WHAT A DAY AT ALL SEASONS!

by Heidi Eckert

The morning began early. Fred, Carol, Ray and I met at the barn at 6 AM to load up the horses for the trip to All Seasons. Fred has been working for weeks with Shale, teaching her how to load into a trailer and he did a great job. Ray borrowed a trailer from Ross Brensan Racing Stables for the trip. Shale loaded well with Fred there to help her along.

We took 16 competitors and three horses. We had five riders per horse. This is hard; normal is two riders per horse. Needless to say we were busy. Carol took Zeke down to the lower arena for trail classes and Shale, PJ and I handled the upper arena.

David Calhoun, George Mori, Rocky Giovanni, Celeste Molina, Shannon Myer, Nathan Cox, Allison Lau, Cassie Alvarado, Max Brown, Ezra Jacobs, Michael Sauer, Dominic Mangini, Matthew Fuller, Lindsay Boyle, Kyle Braz, Kathryn Aldinger, Sarah Cole and Sarah Morton, did a great job. Every student placed in all classes entered. four 1st places, six 2nd places, five 3rd places, four 4th places, one 5th place. Wow! Even better than last year. How do we do it?

Thank you to all the volunteers; Fred, Ray and Vivian. And thank you to parents and friends. Students, without your patient hours of hard work and training with the horse we would not be such a strong force to contend with at the shows.

Thank you again,

Heidi

B.O.K. BRIEFING

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

Donations

Thank you to the following for their generous donations:
Antoinette McCarty - Mr. & Mrs. Tom Federighi - Mr. & Mrs. Henry Friedman - Mr. & Mrs. Dan Schoon - Gloria Deuknajian - Kathleen Kane - Lucille Crawford - Mr. & Mrs. Aron Sheiden - Mr. & Mrs. Carl Kistner - Harold Bloodsworth - Ginevra Hunter - Mr. & Mrs. David Kjome - Mr. & Mrs. Mark Severt - Mr. & Mrs. Paul Carmichael - Mr. & Mrs. Ricci - Marilyn Woods - Mr. & Mrs. Dan Boardman - Vera Lindeberg - Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hordy - Mr. & Mrs. George San Pietro - Mr. & Mrs. David Goddard - Elizabeth Pelletier - Helen Weis - Lisa Montalvo.

The Derby Club at Bay Meadows

United Way Donor Option Plan: Elaine Dunmull; Mary Ann Ellis; Laura Toland

Wish List Donors - Thank You

Nathan Cox - fly spray and brush
Mr. Elks - English Saddle
Marsha Hannah - snaffle-bit
Laura Israel - bridal
LOS ALTOS PET PARADE
By Amy Fong

The pet parade in Los Altos is fun. There was a lot of pets. There were turtles to dogs to horses. Cassie rode P.J. Rocky rode Zeke in the parade.

The preceding article was written by Amy Fong who is presently a student at the B.O.K. Ranch. Well done Amy and from all the children that participated - Wow did we have a great time.

B.O.K.'s Ongoing Wish List

Horse supplies:
3 winter turnout blankets, 3 wool coolers, reins, Devonshire safety stirrup boots, buckets, pony cart and harness, large rubber curry combs.

Funds:
Contributions for the Beverly Aiello Scholarship Fund.
Printing costs for brochures, newsletter, and stationery.

Human resources:
Volunteers
Grant writer

Miscellaneous items:
Sun shade canopy: Enviroshade 10' X 12'6" veranda-plus shade structure
Office supplies (fax and photocopy paper, etc.)
Two long wooden benches
Wooden bridge for trail class obstacle, or instructions to build one and volunteer builders

Calendar of Events

Advisory Board Meeting
Oct. 5, 1993

1993 Fall Season Begins
Sept. 23, 1993
Hidden Villa Ranch, Los Altos Hills, CA

Derby Club – Night at the Races
Sept. 24, 1993
San Luis Obispo

BOK Ranch Open House
Sept. 25, 1993
San Luis Obispo

Derby Club at Bay Meadows Lunch
Oct. 9, 1993

Hunt Country Stable Tour
Oct. 17 1993

C.T.E.T.A. Horse Park Barbeque
Oct. 23, 1993

Special Olympics Horse Show
Oct. 23, 1993
Rancho Murieta, CA

End of Fall Season
Nov. 20, 1993
Hidden Villa Ranch, Los Altos Hills, CA

Changing of the Guard
at the B.O.K. Briefing

Sandy Su resigned her position as editor of the B.O.K. Briefing and her many other volunteer activities. She has moved to the east coast. Sandy was editor of the Briefing from April of 1992 to March of this year. Her volunteer work did not stop here. Many of you will remember Sandy working with the horses and as a guiding force in helping to organize events such as Western Day and All Seasons Riding Academy competition. Sandy's energy and motivation will be missed. We send Sandy our best wishes.

John Mori is now editing the newsletter. If you have any questions or input for the newsletter please contact him at the BOK office or at (415) 323-2374.
Valrie Massey, Photographer, Comes to the B.O.K.

The B.O.K. is pleased to have Valrie Massey as our official photographer. Valrie has generously offered to donate her time and materials as well as her considerable skills. Look for further information in our next issue.

Contribute to B.O.K. Ranch
Through United Way's Donor Option Plan

B.O.K. Ranch is now entering its ninth year of bringing therapy on horseback to individuals with physical and developmental disabilities. Our program is continuing to grow, thanks to the support of individuals like you.

During the annual United Way drive you can simply ask for the Donor Option Plan form and fill it out.

Your tax-deductible contributions, either by directly sending a check to B.O.K. Ranch, 1815 Cordilleras Road, Redwood City, CA 94062, or through the United Way, are needed and appreciated. If you do not receive an acknowledgment from us, or if you have any questions, please call Ann Kulchin at 415-366-2BOK.

It is with the help and support of friends like you that continues to make our program a success.