



## A Letter from the President

Happy 2017! It has been a crazy winter this year but looks like we are finally coming in to spring and you know what that means, time to start riding our horses! The new 2017 board has been very busy planning for the upcoming riding season. At our first board meeting in late January we drew up a basic outline of programs and events for this year. In addition, we have also been working on completing any unfinished business from 2016 as well as identifying what improvements, repairs and maintenance that need to be made to the arena and facilities this year. Needless to say it is no small task. We are making progress but there is still much work to be done. However, at this point, I can tell you we do have our calendar of events completed and although we may not have as many events at the arena as we have in the past, I am pleased to say the ones we have decided on are all high quality events and programs and we sincerely hope our members will be more active than in the past in participating in these programs and events. We need the support of our membership to be able to provide quality programs and events as well as provide a well maintained and professional facility for our members to use.



**TRAILS/OBSTACLE COURSE** – As we have mentioned before, we have been working on developing a trails/obstacle course that our members can access at any time to train their horses in dealing with obstacles. We were not able to pull all of the needed materials and resources together last year to begin construction but I can now share with you that we have a draft of the design and list of needed materials to be able to construct 4 obstacles for this season. We are in the process of acquiring the needed materials and once we have everything we need, will begin construction. This is a big project and the more help we get from our members in the construction phase, the faster we will get it completed. We are ideally hoping to have the presentation and demonstration of this new course at our first General Meeting in either May or June (weather depending) but need your help to make that happen. If any of you are willing and able to help please contact either Gary Frazee, Shannon Seaman or Kim Delandtsheer. Their contact information can be found on our website.

## HORSEMANSHIP CLINICS

We have two outstanding clinics to offer this season. The first clinic will be a Downunder Horsemanship Fundamentals course with Diego Gaona, one of Clinton Anderson's Professional Certified Clinicians. To learn more about Diego, go to <http://www.certifiedclinician.com/clinician/diego-gaona/>. This 3 day clinic will be held at the Los Vaqueros Arena June 16 thru 18. This clinic is limited to 6 participants and will be offered to members first. The cost of the clinic for LV members will be \$900 per participant, which will include lunch each day. After April 30<sup>th</sup> registration will be open to non-members for \$1000 per participant including lunch. A 50% deposit is required at time of registration. Course auditing will also be available at a cost of \$20/day or a 3 - day pass for \$50 for members. To secure a spectator/auditor spot we recommend you register no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Contact Kim Voigt or Wendy Frazee to register or for more information.

The second Horsemanship Clinic will be with Annette Venteicher-Coker, August 10<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup>. The cost for the 4 - day clinic is \$600, and \$20/day to Audit the clinic. Strong fundamentals are taught over the course of 4 days in a connective manner that will guide each student through the process of advancing themselves and their horse. The students will understand ways in which to establish and maintain softness within their horse. The 4 day clinics start from the ground up. The first half-day, to one full day is spent on the ground helping students understand how to effectively communicate with their horse based on the horse's way of thinking and natural instincts. Annette instructs students how to establish the parameters of respect, willingness, and responsiveness and, how to get their horses to be responsive without being reactive. Annette explains the correlation between, and progression from, the groundwork to working in the saddle, and how it applies to better, more effective communication between horse and rider. The following 3 days are spent in the saddle instructing students on how to apply the parameters of respect, willingness, and responsiveness that were established in the groundwork into the saddle in order to create refinement in their horses, in the traditional style of her mentor Buck Brannaman. For more information or to register for the clinic, contact the clinic sponsors: Mo Franks 562-673-7717 [mosefranks@charter.net](mailto:mosefranks@charter.net) & Kathy Armsby 909 963-9405 [cardsby7@gmail.com](mailto:cardsby7@gmail.com)

**RANCH SORTING CLINIC AND JACKPOT SORTING** - James and Remy Greer of JR Productions will be conducting two Ranch Sorting Clinics followed by a Sorting competition. We have two dates for this great event this year. The first will be on June 10<sup>th</sup> and the second date is July 15<sup>th</sup>. The clinic will be in the morning with a break for lunch and then the Ranch Sorting Jackpot in the afternoon. Sign up and start times will be provided at a later date so stay tuned!!

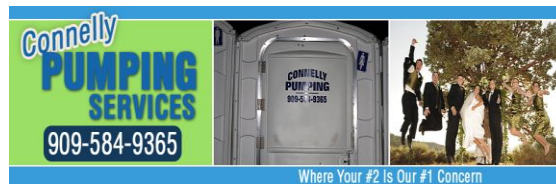
**TRAIL RIDES** – Donna Samuelson and K.C. Huffman have put together an outstanding Trail Ride program for this year. These rides will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday (excluding July 2<sup>nd</sup> & Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>) and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month beginning April 19<sup>th</sup> thru October 1<sup>st</sup>. Most of the rides will depart from Los Vaqueros Arena, however some will require trailering. If you do not have a trailer, contact either Donna or KC to help arrange transportation to the trail head. These rides are free to members and their guests. However, for trail rides that include lunch, lunch is free to members and at a nominal cost to non-members. For specifics on each ride, visit our website at [www.losvaquerosridingclub.org](http://www.losvaquerosridingclub.org).

## **2017 MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in Los Vaqueros runs on a calendar year beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. As of March 1<sup>st</sup> any members who have not paid their dues are considered delinquent and are no longer eligible to access the Arena grounds or participate in member only activities or receive any member discounts where applicable. As was communicated last November and again at the December General meeting, the dues have increased for 2017. This a long awaited and much needed increase in order to cover the numerous expenses (taxes, utilities, insurance etc.) that it takes to run the club as well as costs to maintain and improve the Los Vaqueros Arena, buildings and grounds. A single membership is \$100, a couple \$175, a family \$200. Junior memberships will remain at \$25. In addition, we are installing all new locks on gates and building doors. In order to receive the new access code to the gates, you must be a member in good standing which means, we must receive your annual dues, new Membership Application and Release of Liability for each person on the membership. Once we receive all 3, we will provide you with the new code. The codes will be changed every calendar year. Use of the Arena and grounds in non-event times is for members only so please do not share the gate code or bring non-members into the arena. This is a benefit of membership, and It is unfair to the members who financially support the club to allow non-members to use the facilities in non-event times.



**Gold Sponsor**



**Silver Sponsor**

