

# STEPPING STONES RIDING PROGRAM

*CONNECTING HORSES & PEOPLE—NO BARRIERS, NO LIMITS*

# BARN BANTER



## Holiday Trail Ride



On Saturday, December 20th from 2:30pm to 5:00pm, Stepping Stones Riding Program hosted a festive Holiday Trail Ride in beautiful Santa Rosa Valley. The afternoon was filled with laughter, teamwork, and holiday spirit as seven riders saddled up for a special seasonal adventure.

Trainer Meaghan embraced the occasion, dressed in cheerful holiday gear that added an extra touch of fun to the ride. She led the group along the scenic trails, guiding participants through a variety of challenges that naturally come with trail riding. Riders practiced maneuvering in a single-file line, navigating small and tight spaces, and confidently crossing, passing through, and moving around obstacles. The varied terrain required focus and communication as horses and riders traveled up and down hills and across uneven ground.

The Holiday Ride was more than just a festive outing—it was an opportunity for riders to build skills, strengthen partnerships with their horses, and enjoy the beauty of the outdoors together. The afternoon ended with smiling faces, proud accomplishments, and a wonderful sense of community that perfectly captured the spirit of the season.



Want more information on SSRP?

Contact us here:  
<https://forms.gle/tRJUP19634UzuHrM9>

10241 Hill Canyon Road  
 Camarillo, CA 93012

[HTTPS://STEPPINGSTONESRIDINGPROGRAM.ORG](https://steppingstonesridingprogram.org)





## Weathering the Storms Together

This last December brought a significant amount of rain to the Santa Rosa Valley, reminding us just how powerful Mother Nature can be, especially here on the flood plain. While the valley soaked up the rainfall, our barn experienced its fair share of standing water and mud as the ground quickly became saturated.

Thanks to good planning and solid infrastructure, all of our horses stayed safe, dry, and comfortable in their stalls throughout the storm. Their well-being is always our top priority, and we're grateful that they were able to ride out the weather snug and secure.

We want to extend a huge thank-you to our incredible volunteers who showed up despite the rain. Whether you were pumping out water, slogging through the mud, or making sure every horse was fed on time, even while getting soaked yourselves, your dedication did not go unnoticed. It takes a special kind of commitment to lend a hand in those conditions, and we are so thankful to have such a dependable and caring barn community.

Rainy days like these are a reminder that it truly takes a village to keep a barn running smoothly. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for being there when it mattered most.



# Horse News

## Region 2 Horse Board

Meaghan has been tasked with running the Region 2 Horse Board this year. The board consists of riders 12 and older, from different barns, who come together every other month to plan, discuss, and host events throughout the year.

Members will also serve as a volunteer at the Region 2 horse show in Santa Barbara in June.

Region 2 is one of 18 Regions that comprise the Arabian Horse Association. They were organized in 1976 as Region 2 under the International Arabian Horse Association (IAHA) which was created in 1950.



### Trent

Welcome Trent!

Trent is 7 years old.

Trent was donated by Jenifer Diamond from Moorpark. He is a sweet, loving, gentle horse both in and out of the ring.



### Spencer

Spencer is back!

Spencer is 10 years old.

Spencer was purchased out of Ojai by Tina Frigoli. He is a very friendly horse who will come when you call his name.



### George

Welcome George!

George is 23 years old.

George is a retired LAPD horse. He can be a forward ride but is also a sweet and very tolerant horse for all riders.

# Additions/Improvements/Donations



## NEW SHELTER

Thank you to volunteers Joe, Kaelin, Manny, Zachary, Presley, and Sara for getting the new shelter up! Together we were able to overcome the struggle.



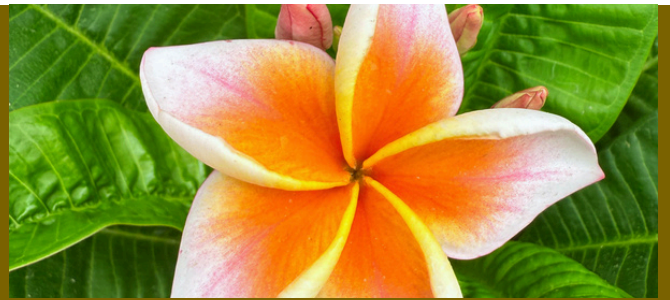
## FRESHLY RAKED BARN AISLE

After the rains came Thank you to those who helped raked the barn aisle to make it flat and neat!



## INTERESTING FACT...

The Arabian horse can have one less vertebrae than other breeds



## WISH LIST

New muck cart x 4

Hay barn/Carport

Stacked Saddle Racks

Running martingales

XL First Aid Kit w/ box

Helmets-  
2 XS, 2 S, 1 M

# Barn Highlights



## Rider Highlight: Lili

This month, we're excited to shine the spotlight on Lili, a dedicated and hardworking rider who has been part of the SSRP family for the past six years. At 17 years old, Lili is a familiar and friendly face around the barn, coming out four to five times a week to ride, care for her horse, and lend a helping hand.

Lili owns Moneco, and their partnership continues to grow through consistent riding, patience, and trust. When asked about her favorite thing about riding, Lili shared that the barn is her place to come after a stressful day, a space to reset, breathe, and focus on the connection with her horse.

Beyond riding, Lili also enjoys helping out with our fun shows, saying it's a great way to be involved, support other riders, and enjoy the community side of barn life.

Her advice to fellow riders is both honest and inspiring:

*"Even though you are scared, you should still try rather than wondering what could have happened."*

That mindset perfectly reflects Lili's approach to riding - brave, thoughtful, and willing to grow. We're proud to have her as part of our barn community and look forward to seeing where her journey with Moneco takes her next!



## Working Hard

## SSRP 2026 Judging Team

This years team will be attending the Arabian Horse Association US Nationals Show in Tulsa, Ok at the end of October. This is an opportunity for team members to be involved in the Arabian Horse judging world while competing with your from Canada and the USA. The team this year consists of Head Coach Sara and team members Marley, Summer, Camille, and Kyla.

## Pony Club SRV

The United States Pony Clubs, (Santa Rosa Valley Club) Inc., develops character, leadership, confidence through a program that teaches the care of horses and ponies. Summer competed in the Horse Rally on Sunday 2/22 where her team placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Senior D level class.



# Events

**MARCH 21, 2026**



**HILL CANYON TRAIL TROT 5K 2026**

Free Kiddie K for 10 & Under

REGISTRATION & INFORMATION



**SPONSORED BY:**



**Rosemary Allison & Joe Markiewicz**




**Mark & Penny Burley**



## Weekly Lessons

We offer lessons in to those 6 years old and up. Riders are taught to catch, halter, lead, groom, clean, pick hooves, and tack their mounts before riding. After riding, riders are responsible for untacking and neatly stowing away the equipment, grooming the horse, safely putting the horse away, and sweeping.

Evening (5pm) lessons start up again in March.

## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- 3/21 - 5K run Spring fundraiser.
  - All ages welcome!
- Free T-shirts to all participants
- Event will run 8am - 11am
- Looking for sponsors - see flyer
- We will need volunteer help.
  - Email [steppingstonesridingprogram@gmail.com](mailto:steppingstonesridingprogram@gmail.com)

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



**HILL CANYON TRAIL TROT 5K 2026**

**March 21, 2026**

### Sponsorship Opportunities

The inaugural Hill Canyon Trail Trot will be a family-friendly race along the creek, through canyon trails and oak-lined paths.

100% of the proceeds support the Stepping Stones Riding Program, whose mission is to connect horses and people regardless of circumstances and wealth through low-cost riding lessons and horse experiences.

<p><b>Platinum \$1000</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large name or logo prominently featured on the back of the race shirt</li> <li>• Awards backdrop and finish line showcase your logo or name</li> <li>• Premier vendor table spot</li> <li>• Name included on the sponsor banner</li> <li>• Sponsor highlighted throughout race and during announcements</li> <li>• Recognition in email newsletter and social media channels</li> </ul>	<p><b>Silver \$250</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name included on the sponsor banner</li> <li>• Vendor table spot</li> <li>• Sponsor shout out on race day</li> <li>• Recognition in email newsletter and social media channels</li> </ul>
<p><b>Gold \$500</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name or logo on the race shirt</li> <li>• Name included on the sponsor banner</li> <li>• Vendor table spot</li> <li>• Sponsor thanked throughout race</li> <li>• Recognition in email newsletter and social media channels</li> </ul>	<p><b>Bronze \$100</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vendor table spot</li> <li>• Sponsor shout out on race day</li> <li>• Recognition in email newsletter and social media channels</li> </ul>

**In Kind Donations** Goods and/or services donated will be rewarded according to their value with the benefits listed above.

# Upcoming...

- 5/1 - Cal Poly Pomona Barn & Campus Tour
- 5/15-5/17 - Spring Campout
  - Location: Montana De Oro
- 7/16 - Many Mansions Camp
- **10/3 - Fall Fest**
- Fall 2026 - Tours
  - Fresno
  - Mt. San Antonio College
  - UC Davis

