



CHAMP NEWSLETTER

CHAMP Mission Statement -
Promote the welfare, recreational
use and enjoyment of horses,
mules, donkeys, and ponies in the
Village of Corrales

January 2011

A reminder that you and anyone else interested in horses and equines in Corrales are invited to the annual CHAMP membership meeting **Wednesday, February 2, at 7 p.m.** at Sandia View Elementary School at Academy Drive and Corrales Road at the north end of the village.

At the meeting we will elect officers and board members for the coming year and we will briefly review the status of the organization and our plans for 2011. But most of the meeting will be devoted to an **equine colic seminar** by Dr. Mark Meddleton, a well-known area veterinarian. As a result, I hope you will bring your friends and neighbors if they are horse owners or interested in equines, whether or not they are members of CHAMP. Mark's presentation will be dramatic, visual, informative and useful.

I'm happy to report CHAMP ended 2010 with a **cash balance** of approximately \$7000 after paying for the new sound system for Top Form Arena and helping the village get into running order the water truck that was donated by Pine Ridge Arabians. We feel we have made a substantial contribution to the usefulness of the arena for future events and activities.

Karen Brooke, our membership chair, has been busy **renewing memberships and signing up new members**. If you have not responded or received the information, bring your checkbook to the annual meeting. A family membership is only \$25, \$15 for individuals.

Our annual **Christmas de Caballos** Parade was a success with two wagonloads of toys donated to the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program and a somewhat longer route down Corrales Road than in the past. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Our **trails committee** is particularly active under the leadership of Steve Komadina. The committee is planning a **spring recreational ride** in the village May 7, including a packing clinic and brand inspections. In the meantime, Steve is organizing informal trail rides at locations around the state and will keep us informed of opportunities for trail riding sponsored by other organizations. Steve moves as fast as a good trail horse on a mission, but you can keep up with him on the CHAMP Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/CHAMP-Trail-Riders/127833593943196#!/pages/CHAMP-Trail-Riders/127833593943196>

Nancy Nelson and her committee already are planning this year's **Horse Extravaganza** Sept. 24 during the Corrales Harvest Festival and we're planning to sponsor the fall **Barn Tour** again this year as well as another Christmas parade.

The Corrales Planning and Zoning Commission is expected to vote Feb. 16 on the long-awaited final plat for the Dorothy Smith Farm just south of Meadowlark Road. We anticipate the plat will include **Rhythm's Lane**, a public riding path connecting the Corrales Main Canal ditch bank with the Corrales Acequia, which most of us call the front ditch. We are ready to work with Dorothy Smith's niece, Alana McGrath, and with the village to help prepare and maintain the path. We're also continuing to monitor the village use of agriculture land it has acquired north of West La Entrada to determine the best location for a promised riding path. Like most of you, we continue to be concerned about various proposals to reconfigure the Corrales Bosque Preserve and we want to ensure the continued use of the bosque by horses and their riders.

Because of the dry winter, we anticipate the **fire danger** will be high again this year. We will work with the Fire Department and the Bosque Commission again this year, as we have done in the past, to help spot fires or dangerous conditions and, if necessary, to evacuate livestock.

Hope to see you February 2.