

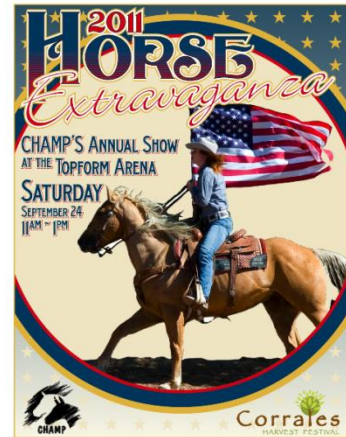


August 2011

I am pinch-hitting this month for the CHAMP president.

The next big event on the CHAMP calendar is the annual Harvest Festival Horse Extravaganza Saturday, Sept. 24, at TopForm Arena. CHAMP Board Member Nancy Nelson is organizing the event again this year and she has invited horses, mules, riders and drivers representing a wide range of types, breeds and disciplines. The show begins at 11 a.m. following the Harvest Festival pet parade. The idea is to show Corrales residents and visitors some of the equine athletes who live in the village and demonstrate what they can do. Nancy is looking for a few more volunteers to help with the event. You can contact her at [nelsonnl@unm.edu](mailto:nelsonnl@unm.edu)

The following day, Sunday, Sept. 25, the Kiwanis Club of Corrales will announce the winner of the first Pet Mayor of Corrales election. Two horses and a donkey are among the nine candidates, but it's a close race and the first pet mayor of the Horse Capital of New Mexico could turn out to be chicken. You can vote as often as you want by donating a dollar per vote to the Kiwanis Club in the name of your favorite candidate. You can vote at the Sunday Growers' Market, at local businesses, or online at <http://www.corralesharvestfestival.com/petmayor2011.htm>  
Proceeds from the balloting will help support the Harvest Festival.



While you are in the mood to vote, you also have an opportunity to support a local horse and rider in nationwide competition to find America's Favorite Trail Horse. Elektra, a six year old registered quarter horse trained and ridden by Kathryn Sikorski, is among 100 trail horses that will be featured in a series of 13 television shows this fall. Elektra's performance, which occurred this summer at a ranch near Austin, Texas, will be shown Oct. 4 at 6 or 9 p.m., Mountain time, and again on Oct. 9 at 9 a.m. on a satellite TV channel called HRTV. If you have the DISH service, you can see it on channel 404 or you can see live streaming on the Internet at [www.HRTVlive.com](http://www.HRTVlive.com) and [www.actha.tv/](http://www.actha.tv/). Then go online at [www.actha.us](http://www.actha.us) and cast your vote. Kathryn is a CHAMP alternate board member.



If you like what you see (and you will), you can meet Kathryn in person Saturday, Oct. 15 at this year's CHAMP trail clinic.

Kathryn and her husband Mike, a local horse trainer, will help you ride with quiet confidence anywhere (although you should be sure to ask Mike about his early experience with Elektra). Whether you are interested in competitive trail riding or just a tour of the bosque, the clinic will give you and your horse the tips and tools for success. The clinic will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at TopForm Arena. The fee is \$25 for CHAMP members. The first 12 people to sign up will participate, but auditors also can watch and learn for \$10.

The Corrales Bosque Advisory Commission has informed us that all gates to the bosque are open again, including the ones at Romero Road and at the north end of the village. Some gates had remained closed even after the bosque itself reopened following the height of the summer fire season. The commission also is looking for volunteers to serve as unofficial monitors during the habitat restoration project planned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the southern end of the bosque during the coming months. If you are interested, contact Corrales Bosque Advisory Commission Secretary Lara Aho at 919-724-3308 or at [lara.aho@gmail.com](mailto:lara.aho@gmail.com) before Sept. 2. This is separate from the bosque fire patrols.

If you are looking for a horse, we have posted several notices recently in the classified section of the CHAMP website at <http://www.champnm.com/html/classifieds.html>. We also try to send out notices by email. If you know that one of the horses listed has found a new home, please let me know so I can delete it from the website. The classifieds are available without charge to any CHAMP member.

Finally, speaking of membership, the CHAMP board of directors has instructed me to work with the treasurer to develop a mailing list of paid-up CHAMP members and to distribute future newsletters to that list. We have more addresses on our mailing lists than paid memberships, which doesn't give our treasurer much leverage to get you to cough up. Dues are payable at the beginning of each calendar year and are good only for that year. We may continue to maintain a larger email list for general announcements (and to nag about paying your dues), but if you want to receive the September newsletter, be sure you are paid up for the year. Membership information is at <http://www.champnm.com/html/membership.html>

The next board meeting is Wednesday, Sept. 7, at 7 p.m. at the Pueblo Los Cerros clubhouse. Any member is welcome. The agenda will include the annual Barn Tour and we'll forward information about that event as soon as it is available. Of course, updated information is always available at <http://www.champnm.com/>

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