



# SMOKE SIGNALS

## APACHE RAIDERS

California Gymkhana Association  
DISTRICT 24



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## Apache Raiders April Show News

By Suzie Allard



Although our first two show dates were canceled because of rain (and more rain), the skies finally stayed clear for the fourth Saturday in April.

We were rewarded with a beautiful, warm day for our first official show of the year. About twenty riders turned out for the season opener, which featured seven events in the regular portion of the show and four setup events at the end of the show.

The arena was fast and safe, with several sizzling times being recorded. Many people commented that their horses had set personal bests.

The introduction of the new computer system by Joy Bowler went smoothly and added to the professionalism of the show. Announcer Dick Oakes, club time recorder Carol Young, and all-around "firefighter" Treasurer Scott Pond did an excellent job of handling show production. Scott even raked around obstacles in his few spare moments! The tireless efforts of Ted Bowler and Richard La Valle both inside and outside the arena assured an enjoyable day for all the riders.

Several riders and their supporters jumped in to assist the hard-working staff, including Teddy Bowler, Kristy Koch, Frank Hyde, Kitty McClanahan, and Marilyn McClanahan. I apologize to anyone I inadvertently may have failed to mention. Thanks to you all!

Overall Show High Point awards went to Dina Leafdale on Rocky for horses, and to Autumn Eck on Seven-Eleven for ponies. Each of these riders was awarded a handsome tri-color ribbon to commemorate her day's achievement. Way to go Dina and Autumn!

With Amanda La Valle off for a weekend trip, her mom, Sue rode Lonnie to several ribbons and some AAA times. Watch out Amanda, your mom may be thinking of stealing your swift mare!

The AAA+ and AAA divisions were represented by exceptionally talented riders. Frank Hyde and his good bay mare, Tuff, made the going rough for any rider hunting the ribbons. Kristy Koch and Teddy Bowler also added their talents to these divisions, making the competition especially fierce. Dannielle Sahagian and her colorful horse, Quincy Sunrise, also blazed through the courses, leaving other riders little room for error.

Bridget and Kim Crouch had their father grinning from ear to ear with their top notch performances. Bridget won several awards in the AAA division. Kim earned several A "move-up" times and ended every class with a smile.

Sherry Baker and her good looking gelding, Sam, came all the way from Goleta to ride in our show. Sam was a

solid performer all day and won several awards.

Becky Yeargan brought Molly back to competition after a long layoff to recover from an injury. Their performance level shows that they will be a team to watch out for as they start to regain their peak. Grant Allard, with leadline assistance from his Aunt Kitty (McClanahan), rode Zippy throughout the day and had his ribbons proudly displayed on his wall that evening. Amy McClung, a visiting member of CGA, tuned up her horses for junior rodeo and ran a sizzling set of Poles II and a blazing 18.04 on barrels. It also was good to have George Allard back riding with us and hope to see him at more shows.

My own horse Tuf Enuf surprised me with several personal bests. I think he's telling me that he loves this arena and this show!



### THIS ISSUE:

<i>April Show News</i> .....	1
<i>1993 Awards Program</i> .....	2
<i>The Gymkhana Gourmet</i> .....	2
<i>Upcoming Show Dates</i> .....	2
<i>Upcoming Show News</i> .....	3
<i>Overheard at the Pow-Wow</i> .....	3
<i>Wanted -- Alive and Helping</i> .....	3
<i>A Thanks! to Our Sponsors</i> .....	3





## Apache Raiders Awards Program

By Suzie Allard

### YEAR-END AWARDS

Remember to sign up for the Apache Raiders year-end Awards Program. Each registered horse/rider team who competes in 35 classes at Apache Raider shows during this season will receive a buckle. It only costs \$25.00 to enroll, and you'll be very disappointed if you miss this chance to win a great award.

The Awards Program also features special prizes for the Top Ten Riders. Any rider, regardless of ability, can win one of these awards by participating in our shows on a regular basis. So start tallying up those points by coming to all our shows!

It's not too late to get involved in this great Awards Program. If you register at either of the next two shows, all of your points from any shows you have attended this year will count. So add your name to the list of riders who are headed for year-end honors and those beautiful trophy buckles.

### DAY AWARDS

Our club is extremely attentive to the desires of our riders. During the lunch break at our April show, Ted Bowler and Richard La Valle held a meeting with riders. Based on the feelings expressed by riders, the board voted to amend the day award policy. Riders who ride above their rating level will continue to be placed with the group in which they rode (for example, a AA horse running a AAA time will be placed with AAA riders). However, riders now do not have to ride up to the standard of their division to place. This change in policy means that if a AA horse runs an A time, he is still eligible for a AA division award.

Many riders commented that they liked the policy, continued from last year's successful season, of having the option of collecting a ribbon or a coupon for a cash buy-back when they earned a top-three placing in their division.

## The Gymkhana Gourmet

By Suzie Allard

The famous Apache Raiders food booth was in full swing for the April show, complete with its economical and delicious luncheon specials.

Served by the devoted team of volunteers, including Joanne Davidson, Carol Young, and Kristy Koch, hungry riders were able to chow down on hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, chili, and soda. There also will be nachos at future shows, but some key ingredients didn't make it to the show grounds this time!

Four special "plates" were offered for

lunch--each included chips and soda. Here's the chuckwagon breakdown (hmm, sounds like a hoedown tune, doesn't it).

Cheeseburger Plate .....	\$ 2.50
Hamburger Plate .....	\$ 2.25
Chili Dog Plate .....	\$ 1.75
Hot Dog Plate .....	\$ 1.50

It's a great value and a tasty way to help support the club. Remember, the club is operated for the benefit of its riders, and it needs your support to be a continuing success.

## Upcoming Apache Raiders Show Dates

The Apache Raiders have scheduled all their shows for the Arroyo Simi Equestrian Center, nestled south into the rolling hills off of Simi Valley's Royal Avenue, between Sycamore Drive and Sequoia Avenue. See you there!

May 22.....	Arroyo Simi Eq. Ctr.
Jun 5 * .....	Arroyo Simi Eq. Ctr.
Jun 26.....	Arroyo Simi Eq. Ctr.
Jul 24.....	Arroyo Simi Eq. Ctr.
Jul 31-Aug 1 ** ...	Arroyo Simi Eq. Ctr.

\* June 5th is a rain date make-up show for January and is a back-to-back with Hyde's Trybe on the 6th.

\*\* Watch for more information on our special July 31-August 1 weekend show with Hyde's Trybe in the next newsletter!

See *The World of Gymkhana* for updates.

## SMOKE SIGNALS

*Smoke Signals* is published on an irregular basis four or five times a year by the California Gymkhana Association District 24 **Apache Raiders**.

Please send letters, articles, and ideas to *Smoke Signals*, c/o 2992 Kadota Street, Simi Valley, Calif. 93063-1849.

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1/3 .....	(2-3/4H x 7-1/2W) \$25.00
1/3 .....	(5-1/2H x 3-3/4W) \$25.00
1/6 .....	(2-3/4H x 3-3/4W) \$12.50



## Upcoming Show News


By Suzie Allard

Remember to mark your calendar for May 22nd, our second show of the season. We will be running seven events during our regular show, and can run any set-ups you may want. We will even have the Hurry Scurry jumps ready to go. This is a great chance to tune-up for the Spring and Northern Classics.

June 5-6 is a special All Gymkhana weekend. The Apache Raiders will produce the Saturday show (as a make-up for one of our rained-out shows). Then on Sunday, Hyde's Trybe will run one of their shows. It's a great



opportunity to pick up those times you need for your State awards and to have a whole weekend of fun. There's even a rumor of a BBQ party on Saturday night! If anyone needs overnight accommodations near the show grounds, talk to Ted Bowler: (805) 529-2163. Be sure to tell your CGA friends about this unique and exciting weekend of top-notch gymkhana shows.

June 26 is our regularly scheduled show. Remind your friends that, even if they haven't made any other Apache Raider shows, if they begin attending at this show, they can still be eligible for the Apache Raiders Awards Program featuring the year-end buckles. 

## Overheard at the Pow-Wow


By Suzie Allard

Congratulations to Kristy Koch and Ted Bowler Jr. who will be married on May 8th. We wish you both the best for your life together, and are sure that you'll enter the marriage "Hall Of Fame" as well, because you make a great team! We'll all be sure to cheer for the new Mrs. Bowler at the May 22nd show!

We hope that Kitty McClanahan's nice gelding, Joey, feels better soon. Joey suffered a life-threatening infection, but is on the road to recovery, thanks to the talents of Dr. Cox at the clinic in Somis. It may be more than a month before Kitty is riding Joey again, but she reports that he's raring to go!

We hear the Amanda La Valle had a great time in Las Vegas! Everyone missed her at the April show and I heard Lonnie telling the other horses that Amanda was going to buy lots of oats if she hit the jackpot.


Little Will Pond is getting his first teeth and is already eyeing Mom's good cooking in the food booth.

If you have something that you'd like others to know about, give Suzie Allard a call at (805) 268-1173. It's fun to share the special news of Apache Raider members. 

## WANTED - Alive and Helping


By Suzie Allard

It takes a lot of energy to put on a successful show, and we can use more help. All it takes is volunteering to take over an arena job during one event. We can use gate keepers, rakers, arena assistants, announcers, and secretarial help. Don't worry if you don't know how to do the job, we are ready and willing to show you the ropes. Our regular staff needs time off during the day to relax and take a break, and we need volunteers to fill this void. We also would like to have back-up talent trained for office jobs in case one of our valuable team can't make a show.

It doesn't take much of your time, and you'll be rewarded with the knowledge that you are a part of the team spirit that makes the Apache Raiders a successful club. If you're willing to help, let us know at the show. You'll enjoy yourself, and help the club and all its riders, too! 

## A Thanks! to Our Sponsors

By Suzie Allard

A special thanks to Doc Lapkin, our ribbon supplier, who generously helped us attain the beautiful ribbons for a fraction of the regular cost. He also donated several of the Championship (Day High Point) Awards. We appreciate his support of our club. 





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