

Hoofbeats

January 2025

P.O. Box 1326, Twain Harte, CA 95383



The Prez Sez



Hello to all of you wonderful THH members.

I am so honored to be serving as president of THH this year. It all started a few years ago when a new neighbor moved in across the street with her horses. As she and I got to know each other she asked if I wanted to go to a horsemen meeting. I hemmed and hawed, then quickly changed the subject. I am usually not very comfortable in groups of people I don't know, and tend to avoid large groups at ALL costs. She continued to ask and then finally convinced me to go with her

to a meeting. While at my first meeting, I was so surprised to meet so many wonderful people who loved horses and the outdoors as much as I did. What a wonderful group of people. I was amazed that I felt comfortable and at ease in the group. I started to look forward to meetings and started to love the club.

That was five years ago and I still love this club! I am so happy to be a part of such a wonderful group of riders. We all know how to work hard, get mud on our boots, calluses on our hands, saddle sores on our rumps and even road apples in our gardens. We know how to work, laugh and play and we know how to love our animals with all our heart. This is the group of people I want to spend my time with.

We will be working on our 2025 events calendar later in January. So look forward to great events and rides in the upcoming months. The High Ride is scheduled for July 22nd through 28th and we are so excited to have Mike Garman catering for us again. If you haven't tasted Mike's food, you are missing out. His food is so good that it would be understandable for a person to come to the High Ride just to eat. And most importantly, there are all the wonderful people and their beautiful horses. Keep checking your emails for updates about the great events planned for 2025.

THH President,
Joy LaMons

Visit our Twain Harte
Horsemen website at:
twainhartehorsemen.org

Next Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, February 4 @ 6:30 pm.

Location:

Mounted Posse Grounds
19130 Rawhide Road, Jamestown

Officers

President:

Joy LaMons
209.222.1424

Vice President:

Lance LaMons
209.770.1407

Secretary:

Nancy Broce
209.533.2807

Treasurer:

Helga Zuber
209.581.1798

Past President:

Linda Post
209.206.8375

Directors

Chris Mason (Y3)
209.768.4090

Karen Rosasco (Y2)
209.743.1788

Cyndie Collins (Y1)
805.748.6954

Committee Chairs

Hoofbeats Newsletter:

Colleen Combes
650.387.5423
ccombes@pacbell.net

Membership:

JoLynn Miller
805.234.3297

Scholarship:

Janine Smith
209.591.3054

THH FB/Website:

Linda Post
209.533.8511

Past Events

Columbia Christmas Parade December 8

Perfect sunny weather graced the attendees at the Columbia All-Equestrian Christmas Parade. Eight THH members rode in the parade: Helga, Vicki, Kathy, Roy, Janine, Sheryl, Linda, and Cyndie. All looked sharp in their matching green jackets and red Christmas scarves. Horses behaved, and everyone enjoyed the whole experience.



Twain Harte Horsemen Membership!

It's that time of year again! Please join or renew your membership in our wonderful equestrian organization so we can continue to offer the annual High Ride at Eagle Meadow, fun and educational arena events, and other activities to the public and to our members.

For further membership information and the mandatory Release of Liability, scroll to the last two pages of this newsletter.

The 2025 Events Calendar will be organized soon and will appear in the February 2025 Hoofbeats issue.

THH Christmas Dinner

December 20

Terry Lewallen made her from-scratch Lasagna and it tasted better than ever. About 50 members contributed a variety of tasty side dishes and desserts. Everyone enjoyed the social event and shared Christmas cheer. After dinner, the executives and board were sworn in by John Watts.

The new board includes: Joy LaMons, our new president, Vice President Lance LaMons, Treasurer Helga Zuber, and our new secretary, Nancy Broce. The directors are Chris Mason, Karen Rosasco, and 1st year addition—Cindie Wilson-Collins. The swearing in was followed by the traditional gift exchange.



December Birthdays!

Chris Mason
Amanda Betzler
Richard Reitz
Stephanie Stott
Kris Watts Jordan
Janine Smith
Cyndie Wilson Collins



Our new president-Joy LaMons is introduced by John



Nancy Broce joins the executive crew as our new Secretary



Cyndie Collins is onboard as a 1st year director

January 2024 Birthdays!

Neal Lewallen
Maggie Whitman
John Watts
Linda Post
Karen Rosasco



2025 THH Officers Installation—Standing from left: Chris M., Karen R., Lance L., Helga Z., (MC John W.), Cindie C., Joy L., past president Linda P., and Nancy B.

Horse Whorls

Understanding Horse Whorls

by Noche Miller

Looking at whorls is a time honored method of judging a horse's temperament.

Long held as superstition, there is science to back it up. Hair and brain are formed from the same fetal cell layer. Because they form at the same time it makes sense that as a fetus develops the hair growing over the brain, and body, can show signs of what is going on underneath.

The placement of a whorl on a horse's face can tell us a lot about their personality. If it is up **high**, above eye level, the horse will be very smart, energetic, and outgoing. An extrovert.

To the **right**, *our right as we face them that is*, shows a right brained horse, reactive, emotional, nervous, defensive.

A whorl placed **below eye level** should be an introvert, sometimes considered lazy or stubborn they are smart, easily bored, and can be distrustful. I'm not sure I've ever seen a mule that didn't have a low whorl.

A whorl that sits on the **left side of the face**, again our left, means a left brain horse. One who is confident and willful. The farther a whorl is from center the more pronounced the effect will be.

A **center whorl** is the most common and doesn't tell us a whole lot. With that type of whorl we need to look at the shape of the head, ear, eyes, all the other clues we are given.

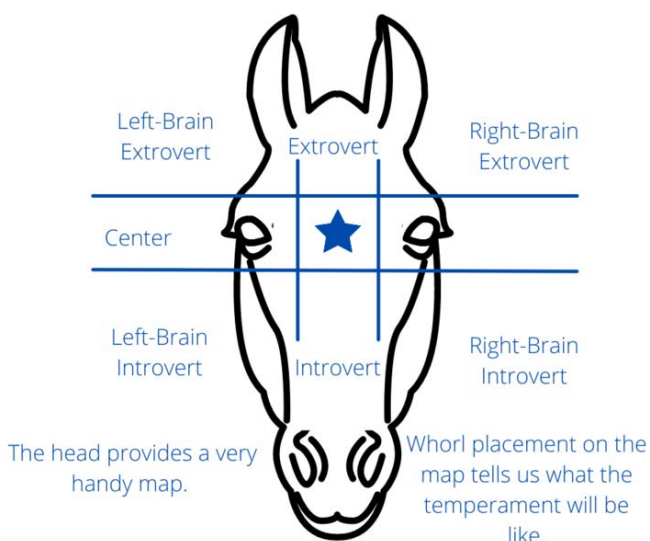
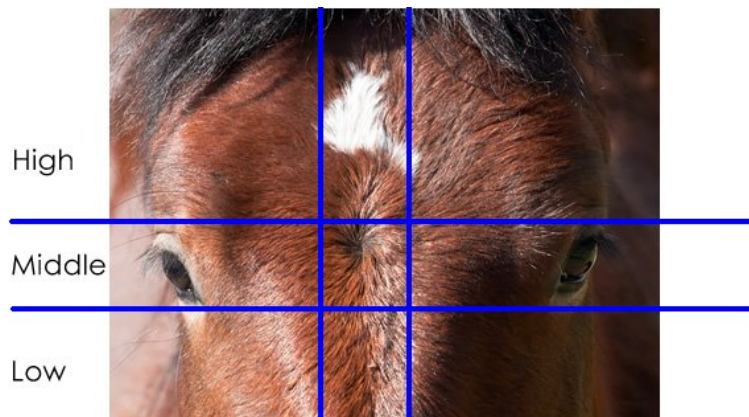
When we get into **two or more whorls** it gets even more complicated. They can show tendencies from two very different brain types. Whorls that are stacked, one above the other, show a horse that is an introvert and an extrovert. Side by side whorls will be right-brain, reactive, and hot, as well as left-brain—unreactive, and confident.

The more whorls the more interesting the horse. The people I've talked to who have horses with three or four or more whorls have loved them.

Whorls can pop up in some unexpected places **across the body** of the horse too. All horses have whorls on the neck that will tell us where they prefer to flex or what direction they like to turn towards.

Whorls on the body can tell us if they will be sensitive to the cinch or girth, or possibly even to the saddle. Whorls on the legs and belly can tell us how the horse will move. There are many whorls that we don't yet know the meaning of but all whorls have a message for us if we will listen.

All horses are individuals. With careful thought and effort, we can find the best ways to work with them no matter what whorls they have. A whorl is not a way to see if a horse is 'bad' instead, checking whorls is one way for us to gather clues. Those clues can help us figure out a horse's temperament and suitability for both us and whatever discipline we are hoping to pursue.



Membership Dues Reminder

It's that time of year again! Please join or renew your membership so we can continue to offer our annual High Ride at Eagle Meadow, and other fun events for both our membership and the equestrian community.

Your dues go toward our liability insurance and a membership in CSHA that we are required to have for our events.

Membership Dues are to be paid by January 31, 2025. Dues are \$30.00 per adult member and \$15.00 per junior member, 17 and under, with a paid adult membership.

Make checks payable to T.H.H. and mail payment with a *signed Release of Liability Form* to: **P.O. Box 1326, Twain Harte, CA 95383.**

A release form needs to be signed by each adult member, husbands, wives and families may use the same form.

On the release form, included at the end of this newsletter, please add any change of address, phone number or email address. Our Insurance Company requires that we have a new, signed release form on file every year, for each of our members.

To keep our club vibrant and effective we need to have ACTIVE members. So, remember, to maintain your ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP and to realize benefits like discounts to the high ride and other activities. For Active Membership status a member must attend at least three meetings and a combination of five workdays or functions every year.

If you wish, you can take advantage of our AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP. You will pay the same dues, and are still covered by insurance and CSHA with no requirements of attendance. However there are also no discounts. Please let us know if you wish to change your membership designation.

Release of Liability is on the following page. Please sign and return with membership payment.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

PARTICIPANT: _____ **TELEPHONE:** _____

ADDRESS: _____ **CITY:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

I acknowledge that horseback riding is a sport, which carries inherent risks of injury and damage to horse, my property and myself. *I knowingly assume all risk, whether known or unknown, of horseback riding.*

I hereby release the TWAIN HARTE HORSEMEN, (hereinafter referred to as THH), and the California State Horsemen's Association (hereinafter referred to as CSHA), various entities of US Government, California State Government, Counties and municipalities within the State of California and any private land owners, from all liability for any act of negligence or want of ordinary care on the part of the aforementioned or any of its agents. In consideration of my participation in events organized or sponsored by the THH and CSHA, I waive, release and discharge the THH, CSHA, the US Government, California State Government, Counties and municipalities or property owners or any of their agents, their directors, officers and members, their representatives, heirs, executors and assigns from any and all claims of liability for injury or damage to myself, my animals, or my property arising out of my participation. This agreement is binding upon my executors, heirs and assigns.

I expressly waive any rights I may have under California Civil Code 1542, which states: "A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his favor at the time of executing the release, which if known by him might have materially affected his settlement with the debtor."

I agree that I will indemnify and hold harmless THH, CSHA and the U.S. Government, California State Government, Counties and municipalities, their officers, directors, members and agents against all claims, demands, and causes of action, including court costs and actual attorney fees, arising from any proceeding or lawsuits brought by or prosecuted for any benefit in which this release is upheld. THH, their agents or employees shall not be liable for any damage, which may accrue from any cause or as a result of fire or natural disaster, theft, running away, state of health, injury to person, horse or property.

Every rider is responsible for their horse's behavior and must be able to control their horse. THH Board of Directors, it's officers and ride chairs reserve the right to dismiss any rider if the rider &/or horse demonstrates lack of control or unsafe behavior.

I acknowledge that I have read this Release of Liability and know and understand its contents.

Signature _____ *Date:* ____ / ____ / ____

Signature _____ *Date:* ____ / ____ / ____

Parent or Legal Guardian must sign for minor children:

I, the undersigned parent or guardian of _____, in consideration of my child's participation in the event, agree that the terms and conditions of this Release of Liability shall be binding as to damage or injury to my minor, and his/her property arising out of his/her participation in events. Helmets are personal safety equipment that should be used for all minor riders. I acknowledge that I have read this Release of Liability and know and understand *its contents*.

Signature _____ *Date:* _____

Twain Harte Horsemen, P.O. Box 1326, Twain Harte, CA 95383