

# Hoofbeats

October 2025

P.O. Box 1326, Twain Harte, CA 9538



## The Prez Sez



October sure has turned out to be gorgeous so far! The color on the trees has been breathtaking! We found a group of red colored aspens up at Eagle Meadow and they were stunning. I am always impressed by each leaf that turns its very own individual array of colors. Two leaves hanging together on a tree can have two very different color variations. The most interesting leaves that

I enjoy seeing is one that has all of the variations from green to red in the same leaf. Exquisite beauty and intelligent design go hand in hand as they quietly slip in to captivate us with one last spectacle of dancing glory before we lapse into the stillness of winter. I hope there are some colorful leaves still left on the trees after this recent storm. The beauty of the fall season never ceases to take my breath away. Trail riding in the fall is also fantastic. The weather has cooled enough to enjoy being bundled up and the horses are more lively. The leaves change daily making every ride a new ride. We just can't beat the great rides that we have available to us all year round. There is always something new and wonderful to ride into the wilderness and see. I hope you are all getting out to see the beauty of this season.

Joy LaMons  
President,  
Twain Harte Horsemen

Visit our Twain Harte  
Horsemen website at:  
[twainhartehorsemen.org](http://twainhartehorsemen.org)

**Next Monthly Meeting**  
Tuesday, November 4

General meeting: 6 p.m.

**Location Change:**  
Mounted Posse Grounds  
19130 Rawhide Road, Jamestown

### Officers

**President:**

Joy LaMons  
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209.581.1798

**Past President:**

Linda Post  
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### Directors

Chris Mason (Y3)  
209.768.4090

Karen Rosasco (Y2)  
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Cyndie Collins (Y1)  
805.748.6954

### Committee Chairs

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JoLynn Miller  
805.234.3297

**Scholarship:**

Janine Smith  
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**THH FB/Website:**

Linda Post  
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## Past Events

### Kerrick Corrals - An Exhilarating Fall Ride

October 11

By Colleen Combes

*No gold coin coveted by man can compare with the golden hues of aspen trees in fall.*

On a fine and chilly fall day, five happy riders left Kerrick Corrals camp site and followed the ridge trail toward Pine Valley Horse Camp. The ride was flawless aside from a false note at the beginning of the ridge trail, where bees rose up to protest our passing and stung three horses and riders. The horses, with a few kicks to the rear and shakes of the head, settled down, and the riders shrugged it off. A tough and trail savvy group, these gals and horses.

Sherryl, Cyndie, Dennise, Pamela, and Colleen continued on the loop, admiring the views from the ridge and indulging in some good-natured grumbling when the fluffy, white clouds covered the sun now and then. We dropped down to Pine Valley Horse Camp which was beautifully set up with tie bars and picnic benches (Thanks BCHC).

After a quick lunch (it was pretty cold at 45-50 degrees), we started out on our normal route but couldn't find a trail because the area below the camp had been churned up recently by logging, so we headed down the road to find the trail to Bell Meadow trail. In Bell Meadow, the aspen with their golden leaves were breath taking. It was a real emotional high and we lingered a while. Then it was up the hill back to camp where everyone was happy to eventually climb into a warm truck cab and head home after an exhilarating fall ride.



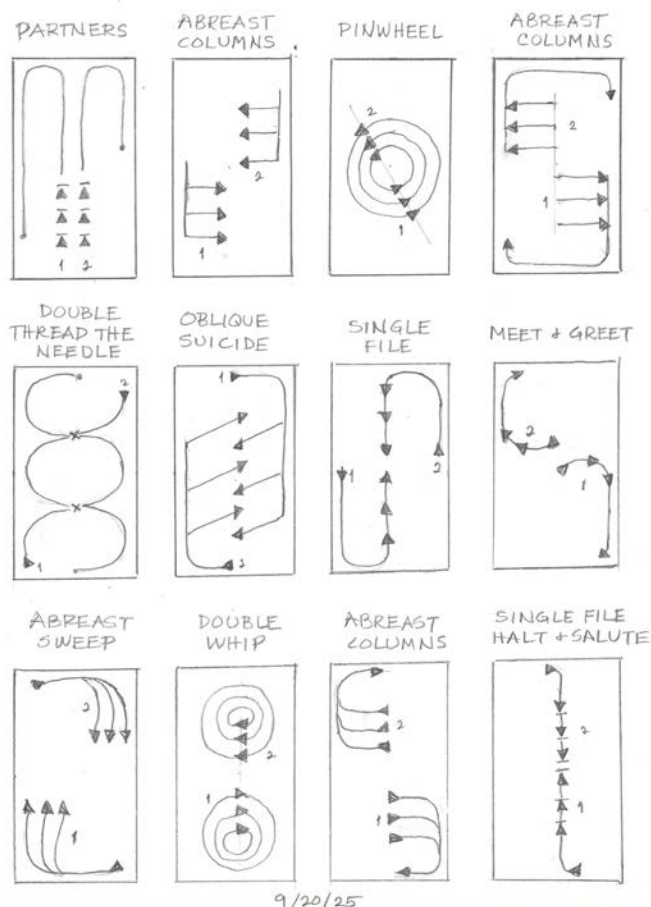
## Past Events

### DRILL TEAM PLAY DAY

**September 20**

By Nancy Broce

For the last drill of the year I used movements done in previous drills, combined a few and threw in a couple of new ones. There were Abreast Columns, Sweeps and Whips which required stirrup to stirrup precision riding. The six riders did great, including two who had not ridden with us before. Please come ride next year for more Drill fun!



## Twain Harte Horsemen 2025 Events\*

Date	Event	Event	Participation
October 25	Center Camp Closing	Lance LaMons	Members Only
November 8	Fahey Cabin Ride	Colleen Combes	Members Only
December 14	BCHC Columbia Parade	Linda Post	Public
December 19	Christmas Installation and Dinner	Joy LaMons	Members Only
*Subject to change			

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# Tips for a Healthier Fall Season for Your Horse

By Flossie Sellers for EquiMed  
*September 1, 2025*

## Keeping horses fit during changing weather

As weather becomes cooler, many horses are ridden less, but horse owners need to be aware of any changes in the physical condition of their horses.

As dryer conditions develop during fall months, proper hoof hydration is important.

**Hoof care** should be kept on schedule. Many horse owners prefer to have shoes removed during the fall and winter months, but hooves need routine trimming every six to eight weeks to prevent cracks and breakage.

**A water supply** that is consistent during all months of the year becomes more important during the fall and winter seasons. Horses tend to reduce their water intake when temperatures fall.

This also comes at a time when more dry forage is included in the diet, making intake of water very important to prevent impaction and colic. Water should be maintained between 45 and 65 degrees F and any ice removed. Horses should continue to drink 8 to 12 gallons a day, depending on activity level.

**Sufficient forage** will also increase dry matter intake, and subsequently water intake. Finally, research has suggested that horses fed high fiber diets have fewer instances of gastric ulcers.

Forage is also necessary in the equine diet from a behavioral perspective. Horses have an innate need to chew, and if there is not sufficient quality forage available they are more inclined to chew on wood or tree bark, other horse's tails, or to consume toxic plants that they would otherwise ignore.

Further, planning for the upcoming winter feed supply during the summer and fall months is key to keeping costs manageable, and the use of alternative forages such as complete feeds (over 16% fiber), and hay cubes may also extend the supply if forage is scarce.

Fall weather also means **changing conditions in pastures**, and horse owners are urged to make sure their pastures are clear of excess leaves and toxic plants that may endanger horse health.

Dr. Ann Swinker, Extension Horse Specialist with Penn State points out, horses like the taste and smell of recently fallen leaves. However, the leaves are dense and can compact in the horse's digestive system and cause compaction colic. For that reason excess leaves from trees and shrubs in pastures should be removed and, if possible composted, to be used as mulch.

Feeding dense leaves and grass clippings can also result in "choke." Choke in the horse occurs in the esophagus and is not only painful and uncomfortable to the horse, but the compacted leaves in the esophagus can only move in one direction – toward the stomach. A choking horse often presents itself with its head hung low with saliva and masticated feed coming out of the horse's nostrils.

A choking horse requires immediate veterinary attention and is usually treated with minimal complications.

Another important focus of horse owners during fall weather is the **types of plants growing** in pastures and along riding trails. As frost and colder weather affect plant growth in pastures and along trails, horse owners are urged to make sure browsing horses do not ingest plants that are toxic.

Poisonous plants can cause serious injury to horses, particularly if animals graze when plants are at an especially dangerous growth stage, when little other forage is available, and when animals are very thirsty.

Poisonings can be avoided by proper management of animals, pastures, and hay. Suggestions for preventing poisoning are:

- Know which plants are poisonous in your area and when they are potentially dangerous.
- Inspect pastures to identify and destroy poisonous plants before initiating grazing.
- Provide supplemental feed and water to animals during periods of low pasture availability.

By taking preventative measures, horses can be protected from plants that might cause colic, health problems or death and with attention to changing needs related to forage, water, and hoof care horses will be healthy and active when colder weather arrives.

