



HALLECK CREEK HEADLINES

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2007

“LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS”

Halleck Creek Celebrates 30 years !

Everyone should have something to look forward to. When you have a disability, or when you are the parent of a disabled child, it is hard to find a place where you fit in. For thirty years, the ranch at Halleck Creek has been a place and an activity to look forward to for children with disabilities and their families. When times are tough, parents remind their children of their weekly visit to the ranch, lifting their spirits.

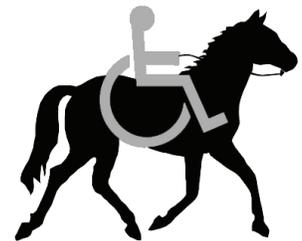
For our 30th birthday, we want to give ourselves a present! We plan to replace the leaking shipping containers and sheds that store tack, feed, and equipment, and build a new barn. The barn would have an indoor area for families and volunteers with a view of the arena, a dry area to store tack, an area for feed and horse supplies, a tool storage area, and storage for our truck and tractor. It will be in a standard barn format, so that we could convert it to house horses in an emergency. Help us reach our goal of \$60,000 to build the barn and honor our 30 years serving the Bay Area.

To celebrate our past 30 years, we are taking a look towards the future. One way we chose to look towards the future is a redesign

of our logo. The designer, Ginny Hautau of Urban Cow-girl design in Petaluma, created this new look for us.

“Life without barriers” is Halleck Creek’s new slogan. When riders mount a gentle horse at Halleck Creek, they feel an empowering sense of freedom and mobility, sometimes for the very first time. Riding a horse enriches someone’s life beyond the obvious physical benefits of the exercise. When a rider overcomes their fear or attains a goal, it gives them a renewed sense of self and a desire to meet other challenges in their lives, both now and in the future. Leading a life without barriers becomes a shared goal and a common mission for Halleck Creek and its riders.

While our 30th year has brought some changes, many things still remain the same at Halleck Creek. We still do not charge even a minimal fee to our riders, we still ride on the open trail, and we still offer one of the most wonderful programs and places to look forward to every week.



Halleck Creek Ranch *Life Without Barriers*

An updated logo is one of ways we are celebrating our 30th year !

Halleck Creek Program Statistics for 2006:

Number of riders served each week.	56
Number of hours of therapy provided each year . . .	2,560
Approximate market value of therapy hours.	\$256,000
Number of volunteer hours donated to the program	6,052
Approximate in kind value of donated hours.	\$90,780
Percentage of riders representing minority ethnic backgrounds	32%

Calendar Of Activities

Some of these dates have come and gone, but wanted to let you know what we have been up to . . .

In April, **Suzy and Eric Thompson organized a wonderful night of music called "Happy Trails"** at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House in Berkeley. They had many talented Bay Area artists join them onstage in a highly entertaining tribute to Halleck Creek. Each artist did at least one song that was about horses, and the entire group came out for a curtain call to sing "Happy Trails" along with the audience. It was a fantastic evening. Birthday celebrations will go on all year long.

May 5th—Spring Horse Show

May 12th-Human Race Walkathon— we involved more people, and raised more money than last year!

May 19th-New Rider/Volunteer Orientation 1:00pm

May 26th-No Ranch Riding-Raye Lochert Horse Training Clinic to benefit Halleck Creek Ranch. We were inspired by Raye's gentle and respectful way with both horse and rider. Participants came away with more confidence in themselves and their horses.

June 3-Sunday-Western Weekend Parade and Cow Flop Drop fundraiser. Come enjoy a real small town parade and celebration. Then place your bets on where the flop will drop! Parade at noon, Cow Flop at 2:00pm. You need to sign up in order to ride in the parade.

June 9th-Volunteer Orientation 8:30am

June 24th-Rider Orientation 1:00pm

July 7th-30th Birthday party—come celebrate with a BBQ lunch and birthday cake. Please bring a salad or dish to share. There

will be regular scheduled riding, but you do not have to ride in order to come celebrate.

July 14th—Volunteer Orientation 1:00pm

July 28th-Rider Orientation 8:30am

August 3-6-Rogue River Rafting Trip

Spend an amazing long weekend among friends, camping and floating on the Rogue River. Don't worry if you have never been camping before, we provide all of the support you need. You only need to bring your own tent and personal items, and a willingness to pitch in and help around camp.

August 11-Volunteer Orientation 8:30am

August 18-Moonlight Rodeo Fundraiser

In case you missed "Happy Trails", Kurt Huget and Moonlight Rodeo have another musical evening to benefit Halleck Creek at 8:00pm at the Larkspur Café Theater. Moonlight Rodeo is a fun and talented band that plays a wide range of great tunes. The Larkspur Café Theater is a beautiful venue with nice acoustics, so the music will be fantastic. Don't miss it!

August 26-Rider Orientation 1:00pm

NOTE: We begin sign ups for riding sessions on the 23rd of each month for the following month.

Please call 415-662-2488 and speak to Julie, or email Julie at:

jcassel@halleckcreekranch.org

to schedule rides each month. Please remember to notify Julie of any scheduled sessions you cannot attend to free that space for someone on the waiting list.

**Speed limit on Old Rancheria Road is 10MPH.
Please be courteous to our neighbors and drive slowly!**

♥ Volunteer Corner ♥

Because "Many hands make light work", we appreciate all of our hard working volunteers. But we have a special thank you to the following people for their extra effort:

- ♥ **Dennis Hansen** for managing the new culverts by the office and behind the hay barn.
- ♥ **David Lee** for installing the new storage cabinets we have in the bathrooms and office.
- ♥ **Ron Nekula** for the expert tractor work and extra help around the ranch.
- ♥ **Claudia Johnson** for all of the computer work and database management she does behind the scenes.
- ♥ **Diane Smith** for coordinating the Human Race.
- ♥ **Danny Holderman** for all of the clean up and coffee making you do every week.
- ♥ **Elyn Sinnickson** for volunteering to promote our Escrip program. Sign up now!
- ♥ **Piedmont Campfire Girls** for the wonderful Easter Eggs.
- ♥ **Eric and Suzy Thompson and friends** for a wonderful "Happy Trails" benefit.

More Star Volunteers:

Halleck Creek Board Members:
Rick Lind, President; Peter Libaire, Treasurer; Claudia Johnson, Secretary; Nancy Brookshire; Dennis Hansen; David Lambert; Raye Lochert; Jack Needling; Diane Smith; and Colleen Goodin.

Volunteer Trainers:
Oona Ziegler, Nancy Brookshire, Colleen Goodin, Madison Lloyd, Jane McKechnie, Ron Nekula, and Diane Smith.

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A Call for Volunteers!

Okay, so you don't like horses . . .there are many more ways to lend a hand!
We need:

Scrapbook artists to put pictures and clippings in albums

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Update on the Expanded Riding Program

Since July of 2006, Halleck Creek has offered individual therapeutic riding sessions twice a week in addition to the group therapeutic riding sessions on Saturdays. Individualized sessions are 30 minutes long, and include exercises in the arena and a trail ride. These sessions began in response to the overwhelming number of new riders wanting to join the program.

Initially it was difficult to convince riders to try the new, shorter format. But as they began to attend their sessions, riders came to appreciate the flexibility, intensity, and individualized attention available during these sessions.

Currently, there are 27 riders attending the weekday riding sessions. This number nearly doubles our 36 riders attending the Saturday group sessions. We have achieved our goal of continuing to serve additional riders without creating a lengthy waiting list, or having to ask long time riders to quit the program.

We are still looking for volunteers to help at these weekday sessions. If you are available between the hours of 10am and 3pm any Monday or Wednesday, we would love to have you join us. We guarantee you will have as much fun as the riders!

"How can we ever thank all of you for what you do for our children each week. It is a gift of love. "

-Parent of rider

Non Profit
Bulk rate
US Postage Paid
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Permit #5

PO Box 159 < New Address!!
Nicasio CA 94946
415-662-2488
Jcassel@halleckcreekranh.org
www.halleckcreekranh.org

HALLECK CREEK RANCH &
HALLECK CREEK 4H RIDING CLUB

Help Halleck Creek celebrate 30 years of service !

There are many ways to give a gift to show your support of this vital organization. Let us know how you would like us to use your donation:

- ◆ ___\$500 help purchase the new barn!
- ◆ ___\$300 buy a new saddle!
- ◆ ___\$150 sponsor a rider for 2 weeks!
- ◆ ___\$30 a dollar to celebrate each year!

Make all checks payable to
Halleck Creek Ranch.
Send checks to :
Halleck Creek Ranch
PO Box 159
Nicasio CA 94946
Thank You!

Join the growing number of people adding Halleck Creek into their estate plans. These thoughtful gifts allow you to leave a charitable legacy, and will guarantee that Halleck