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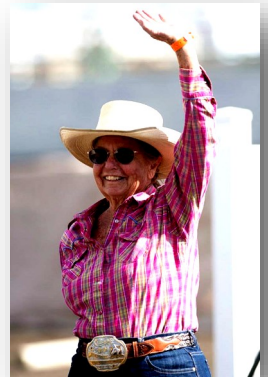
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*The mule world has lost two great people
in August with the passing of Diana
Laird and Albert Andrews*

Diana Laird

Double L Ranch has a hole in it's heart with the passing of Diana Laird. Diana and her husband moved from Del Mar to Bishop in 1989 for his retirement. Diana was a school teacher in Del Mar and continued teaching kindergarten after their move to Bishop. Linda came to stay with Diana after her father's unexpected passing, working at Rock Creek pack station and discovering the magic of mules. Several years later, Diana asked Linda "are you gonna stay?" And from that question came the start of the Double LL Ranch in 2003. Diana and Linda were partners in their training business. They started by training mules and going on road trips showing them with a few dear friends; Jan Huffstutler and Chris McParland.



Linda had purchased Sweet Melissa as a 5 year old for Diana and they clicked right from the beginning. Showing in Pomona, someone asked if Diana would sell Melissa, Linda replied "my mother would sell me before she'd sell Melissa." Linda claims Diana has more pictures of Melissa than of Linda.

Double L Ranch has had a great many students but is known for their youth program. From her many years as a teacher, Diana knew how to deal with the kids and this lead to many young people training at Double L. Diana always had Linda's back but would set her and the kids straight if they got out of line. Many fine competitors came from the guidance of Diana and Linda working together.

We will all miss you but will never forget you Diana.

New Rules Approved for 2020

Amateur division will be split into three divisions:

- *Amateur English Performance & Hunter/Jumper – points will be earned in English performance classes, hunter jumper classes, English equitation and showmanship*
- *Amateur Western Performance– points earned in western performance classes, western equitation and showmanship.*
- *Amateur Ranch–points in ranch division classes and mulemanship.*

A new division added: Pre Green walk/jog for mules in their first year of showing. Classes offered: western pleasure, ranch pleasure, English pleasure, hunter under saddle, trail, W/E dressage. Pre green may not cross enter other divisions including youth and amateur.

Youth drivers may enter open driving classes if no youth classes are offered. Points will be accumulated in the youth driving division.

Donkey classes added:

- *Cattle sorting*
- *Donkey hunter hack with jumps 18' - 2'.*

Gymkhana only: No excessive hitting or spurring allowed but tapping twice on the shoulder will be allowed.

Super reinsmanship and driven dressage will be added to single and team driving divisions.

Trail obstacle definition: multiple obstacles may not be combined to count as one obstacle for trail classes.

Deadline for competitors to check points: Points chairman must be notified by December 20 for errors or questions regarding year end points. After this date, no changes to points will occur.

Ranch reining will be added to Ranch division–patterns will contain 2 spins each direction and 1 large and 1 small circle for green, amateur and bridled divisions.

Highlights from July AMA Board Meeting

Rick Ware is now the official Hatter for the AMA. Rick is providing shaping and cleaning hats at shows to AMA members and 10% discount on new hats to AMA members.

Emily Berman will receive a \$1000 scholarship

The board approved a donation of \$1000 to the American Mule Museum in Bishop



American Mule Association Mission Statement

A California non-profit benefit corporation that was founded in 1976. Since its inception, the AMA has been dedicated to building the reputation and integrity of mules throughout the United States.

MULES is published 6x per year, February, April, June, August, October, December

Advertising Rates

Full page \$110.00

½ page \$75.00

¼ page \$50.00

Business card \$18.00

Classified \$6.00

\$10/ photo includes up to 30 words, .25/word thereafter

Deadlines: Advertising and articles are due by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

Disclaimer: MULES does not accept any responsibility for any and all advertisements submitted to us.



Judge's Clinic

Idaho State Horse Show Association is having a one day judge's clinic Oct 5 at Al Birt's arena in Nampa Idaho. We would love to have mule judges attend our clinic. The clinician is Ginny Miller from Washington. For information please email Anne Ghaley at whatshappeningranch@gmail.com.

All competitors and owners: remember to check your show points before the end of the year. I do my best to enter them accurately but after looking at all those numbers my brain goes a little numb! If you find an error or have a question, contact me at equines06@gmail.com—Maggie Moore



7th Annual Donkey Welfare Symposium Sept 13—15 U C Davis School of Veterinary Medicine

Learn about donkeys and their issues from veterinarians, scientists, trainers and farriers from all over the world

REMINDER: There have been a number of competitors disappointed this year because they have not collected points at the shows for year end awards. As with all equestrian associations, the exhibitor and the owner must be current members to receive points. Additionally mules and donkeys must be registered with the American Mule Association and new owners must transfer registration titles within 45 days of purchasing an animal to receive points.

Calendar of Events

Sept 6-8	Blossom Trail Fall Classic Mule & Donkey Show, info: Kathy (559) 903-0707
Sept 13 –15	7th Annual Donkey Welfare Symposium, UC Davis
Sept 21-22	Gold Country Mule & Donkey Show, Lincoln, CA info: (916) 390-1861
Oct 5	ISHSA Judge's Clinic, Birt arena, Idaho
Jan 25	AMA Banquet & Board Meeting, Harris Ranch

See AMA website for detailed information—americanmuleassociation.org

Board of Directors Election

The 15 directors serve for a period of two years with terms of office of seven directors expiring one year and eight the next year. This year we will be electing eight board members in the last quarter of the year by a mail in ballot. Ballots is included in this newsletter. Any member in good standing may run for a seat on the board of directors.

Biographies for those running for board of director positions are the following:

Jessica Bishop

I have been an AMA member for over 15 years and a director on the board for about 10 years. I have held many positions on the board, past: banquet chair, newsletter editor & membership. I am currently treasurer and vice performance chair. I have a wonderful donkey and a high performing endurance mule. I host/manage the Gold Country Mule & Donkey Show.

Thank you,
Jessica Bishop



Joe Gonzalez

Joe Gonzalez is one of the few Board Members who has been active since the very start of the AMA. He has shown consistently in the cattle, gymkhana and packing divisions, and has stood as Chairperson on those divisions for many years. He is the voice of reason, he is knowledgeable and pragmatic in the goings on of the organization and has been dedicated to supporting the members of the board and the organization as a whole. He and his family have volunteered over the years to run fundraisers for the AMA, his wife and son have been dedicated competitors also. Joe is the man who will travel eight hours to show in four classes because he wants that show to be on the calendar next year, he is invested deeply in the American Mule Association because of his love for the animal, he wants to see the organization not only survive but thrive. Joe is here for the long haul.



JoDe Collins

I have been a member since 1988 and director since 1991. I am currently the performance chairman for the association. I have been breeding, training and showing mules and donkeys for 32 years.

Chris McParland

It is my pleasure to offer my support to the AMA for the next two years. As an incumbent board member, I have enjoyed supporting this organization with the other dedicated volunteers on the AMA board. I pledge to continue to oversee the decisions made for all the members and their mules and donkeys.





Loni Langdon

Hello American Mule Association Members!

I'm Loni Langdon, AMA member since 2012. In 2013 Feather Boa and I were the AMA Amateur Year End Champions. I presently own 4 mules, have packed professionally for over a decade in the Sierra and currently own a mule-centric business named All Equines Bodywork. Mules are a big part of my life. Our fur family means a lot to us and mules make up the majority of our family. I am also the current Membership Chairperson for the AMA. I love our mule community and enjoy staying in touch with them. I'd appreciate your vote to continue on the Board of Directors in this position. Thank you!

Lou Moore-Jacobsen

Lou Moore Jacobsen, of Templeton, CA, is running for the board after spending over 10 years as a board member at different times. An American Mule Association member for over 30 years she would like to see the future of mules continue to prosper, ideally through AMA.

Lou has firsthand knowledge of mules as she has trained and shown mules since the early 1980's and has ridden over 20 mules to championship or reserve championship wins either through AMA or at Bishop Mule Days and would like to share that knowledge by being on the board.



Kelly Moore

I have been on the AMA board for 1yr 8 months as Teamster chairman and am ready to serve another term. I feel the AMA is a great organization for donkeys and mules and their owners and continue to support their cause.



AMERICAN MULE ASSOCIATION

2019 Year End Awards Program Sponsorship Opportunities



Sponsors listed on our website and in the awards program!

- Our awards are purchased using funds collected at AMA mule shows and donations from mule and donkey enthusiasts.
- Each year our Association awards more than 30 buckles and over 100 amazing prizes to our top Mules, Donkeys, Youth, Amateurs, Drivers, Teamsters and Packers!
- Each year our members are recognized during our awards celebration and banquet.

To sponsor a buckle or award, please send your check payable to:

American Mule Association and USPS Mail to:

Kellie Shields, Awards Chairperson

PO Box 146 Clements, CA 95227

Questions??? Email : kelliejshields@gmail.com or text Kellie 209-663-6878

Saddle=\$1500

Division Buckles = \$150

High Point All Around and Reserve Buckles =\$200

TOP TEN AWARD= \$200

Division RESERVE= \$100

Division RESERVE= \$120

Division AWARD= \$75

LEVA /SSA Award=\$75

SPONSOR Program BACK COVER= \$300

AMERICAN MULE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION BALLOT

There are 15 directors that serve for a period of two years with term of office of seven expiring one year and eight the next year in an alternate manner. This year we are electing eight directors to the board. Deadline to mail in ballots is **December 15, 2019**. Election results will be announced at the Board of Directors meeting on January 25, 2020 at Harris Ranch.

Please cast your vote for eight directors

_____ LONI LANGDON

_____ CHRIS MCPARLAND

_____ JODE COLLINS

_____ JESSICA BISHOP

_____ JOE GONZALEZ

_____ LOU MOORE-JACOBSEN

_____ KELLY MOORE

WRITE IN NAME: _____

WRITE IN NAME: _____

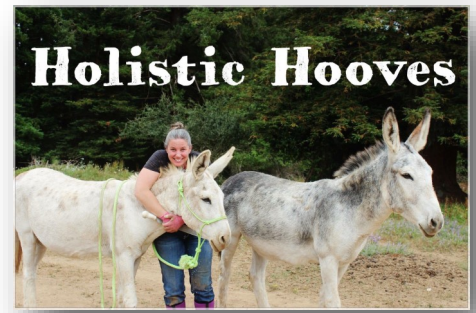
Members AMA # _____

Mail ballots to: Barbara Schuyler
 7792 Olivas Lane
 Vacaville, CA 95688

Megan Hensley of Holistic Hooves

Submitted by Loni Langdon

Follow Megan Hensley AKA “The Donkey Farrier” on Facebook or Instagram and you’ll quickly learn how passionate she is about serving donkeys in a positive and educated light. Her business “Holistic Hooves” takes a wellness approach that you won’t find with many hoof care providers. She is equal parts farrier, educator and welfare advocate. There’s a beautiful intention to Megan that strives to improve lives, both human and equine, through education, inspiration, empowerment and resources.



She first fell in love with mules while working on a trail crew in the Stanislaus National Forrest. With the desire of becoming a packer, she enrolled in the Pacific Coast Horseshoeing School. Although she did not follow her packing dreams, she has created a unique niche working with donkeys since 2007.

We recently met up in person and had so much to talk about!

Her unique perspective about how to approach skeptical equines that have been labeled as “bad for the farrier” is so refreshing. She is light hearted, a self proclaimed “goofball” and her approach to working with donkeys is to get the job done in a way that makes the experience positive and relaxed for both the owner and equine.

Megan has a special way of getting around skeptical equines and I witnessed this myself. Although not a donkey, she trimmed a mustang that had not had his feet attended to in many moons because he was labeled as “difficult and dangerous”. She made friends with him in minutes, took special care to read his body language and trimmed 3 of his four hooves out in our pasture, on a loose line! I was impressed by her ability to allow Chi to have a positive experience while being effective without force. She took the time that was needed, allowed this horse not to feel trapped and I believe he appreciated her way of handling him.

Part of Megan’s call to serving the greater equine community is to bust myths that donkeys are inherently “bad”. She is inspired to help her fellow hoof care colleagues understand donkeys as a species: where they evolved from, why they do what they do, what their nutritional needs are, and how sensitive they can be is all part of what motivates her.

continued below

BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS MULE AND DONKEY SHOW CHAMPIONS

HIGH POINT MULE—HEART B A LIVING DOLL & MAGGIE MOORE

CHAMPION BRIDLED MULE—ARONHILL & LOU MOORE-JACOBSEN, OWNED BY MORRIS & JUDY ARON

RESERVE CHAMPION BRIDLED MULE—HEART B A LIVING DOLL & MAGGIE MOORE

CHAMPION GREEN MULE—LUTHER’S TOO SUPER & LOU MOORE-JACOBSEN, OWNED BY MORGAN VALCHECK

RESERVE CHAMPION GREEN MULE—OK BIG IRON & KELLY SHIELDS, OWNED BY SUE WALLACE

CHAMPION AMATEUR—HEART B OLIVER & VICTORIA TOY, OWNED BY AUDREY GOLDSMITH

RESERVE CHAMPION AMATEUR—HEART B A LIVING DOLL & MAGGIE MOORE

CHAMPION DONKEY—CADDO OKLAHOMA & JACCI GAINES

RESERVE CHAMPION DONKEY— AKIN’S CHOCLIT PUDN & JODY LOWREY

CHAMPION YOUTH—CR NELLIE JEAN & AUDREY MOFFATT

RESERVE CHAMPION YOUTH—BB MAGEE & SOPHIA MOFFATT

CHAMPION MULE GYMKHANA—R RUBY SLIPPERS & EMILY BERMAN

RESERVE CHAMPION MULE GYMKHANA—UPTOWN GIRL & RANDI GOLDSWORTHY

CHAMPION YOUTH GYMKHANA— TIE: OKLAHOMA SWEETPEA & OLIVIA BERMAN, STRAWBERRY G & ABRIANNA JOHNSON





AMA

4395 Carrizo Rd.
Atascadero, CA 93422

While she was at our ranch, she impressed upon me the important role nutrition plays in the health of hooves. And... before I knew it she had a Cody James rasp in my hands and I was under my mule shaping her hoof with Megan's inspiring guidance.

In just a few short weeks Megan will be presenting at the Donkey Welfare Symposium which will be held at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine September 13-15, 2019. It's a jammed packed education lineup of donkey experts from all over the globe. Attend for \$150.00. The theme for this year is "What Makes a Donkey Happy". For more info go to:

<https://donkeywelfaresymposium.homestead.com/index.html>

Her future goals include offering online donkey hoof care and training videos. One series is to focus on getting your donkey confident for the farrier with tips on hoof and donkey handling.

What Megan offers is pretty special. She offers hope. She offers to empower folks to learn how to make informed hoof care decisions. She desires to help people learn how to care for their donkeys feet themselves. She says "donkeys are sweet" and she's "excited for people to fall in love with them". And for the American Mule Association family, there's so much for us to know, learn and love from the donkey side of our mules.

Thank you Megan Hensley for being you and for being the Donkey Farrier. Long-ears around the world are lucky to have you speak up for them!

You can reach Megan at: thedonkeyfarrier@gmail.com

