



May, 2021

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Inside This Issue

- 1 *President's Message*
- 2 *Letter from the Editor*
- 3 *Calendar of Events*
- 4 *Ann Lange*
- 5 *Blossom Show*
- 6 *Trail Clinic*



President's Message

Hello All,

We are entering show season with one under our belts already. W&KRP gave us a great first show with a most outstanding attendance rate. It was good to see some faces we haven't seen since covid started. We have one more, Gold Country, then on to Bishop. Fingers crossed. Most awards were passed out for 2020, there are some that shipped late that will be available at the next show. We have still been working hard to make sure our award winners are celebrated. We are proud of all our AMA exhibitors!! The mules I saw at the first show are a testament that you all are ready to show, they all looked great. We had one mistake printed in the award winners in our last newsletter, Michele Chico and Ok Replay Red were tied for 4th place in the donkey halter. The fix was made in our program and I wanted to let you all know. I am proud of how much our members are ready to be seen loving our longears!! Make sure to check any committee chair changes and send in correspondence accordingly.

Thanks,

Casie Fairbanks



Letter from the Editor

Hello fellow long ear lovers! My name is Erin, and I am the new AMA newsletter editor. Maggie did a great job with the newsletter over the past few years, and I am hoping that I can fill her big shoes! A little about me....I am new to the AMA, and became a member in 2019. After riding horses for several years, and after a number of falls and injuries, I decided to get out of the horse world. It was during this time that my friend, Michele Chico introduced me to the long eared mules and donkeys which have re-sparked my interest in the equestrian world. Michele invited me to one of the AMA shows and it was amazing to see how supportive everyone was of each other, and I wanted to be a part of that community. I participated in my first AMA show season last year with one pretty awesome mule named Duke.

Michele has graciously agreed to help me with the newsletter this year, so you may see some articles written by her as well. Please share your ideas and interests for the newsletter so that we can ensure the newsletter continues to be interesting for all that read it.

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.

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



Riders!!! Calling All Riders!!!

Submitted by Michele Chico

Hey you, get up off of that couch-Yea you! Get up off of that couch!

You already love your long ear-donkey or mule. You already ride, so why not accumulate points????

If you thought that the AMA is all about showing, your thinking needs to be adjusted because it's so much more. The AMA is a group of people, young and old who love the long ear breed.

Do you take your mule or donkey to horse shows, participate in sponsored trail rides, or go to riding seminars? Sign up for LEVA (Long Ear Versatility Award). Any non-AMA event you go to and promote mules and donkeys can help to earn points. Show the versatility of a mule or donkey and tell others why you love them so much.

No trailer? No problem. If you love or like to ride the trails, go out back and ride the roads or work the neighbors cows, the AMA has a program for you! It's called SSA (Saddle Sore Awards). So anytime your touche is in the saddle, your riding time counts.

All it takes is a few minutes to go to the AMA webpage and sign up! Remember, you must be a member, and your animal must be registered to qualify for end of the year awards. Your time starts as soon as you sign up. What are you waiting for????



Calendar of Events

Apr 30-May2	Gold Country Mule and Donkey Lincoln, CA Contact: Jess (916) 390-1861
May 25-30	Bishop Mule Days (760) 872-4263
June 26-27	Jode Collins Clinic (775) 846-0941 or (916) 947-6619
Sept 17-19	Gold Country Mule and Donkey Lincoln, CA Contact: Jess (916) 390-1861

In Loving Memory of
Ann "Mouse" Lange



March 18, 1941
December 31, 2020

The AMA lost one of its long ear members, Ann "Mouse" Lange on December 31, 2020. She passed at the age of 79 and was best known for her work with the National Forest Service, riding trails in the backcountry, and mapping and rating the terrain for over 20 years. She did this to ensure that the trails can remain open for all stock users. She rode all of these trails with a group of like minded individuals to ensure the accuracy of these trails for her fellow riders and safety of the animals. Ann volunteered her time to ride these trails herself to give a personal view of the unique needs required to maintain these trails.

In the 2011 Bishop Mule Days program magazine, Ann was recognized as the Best Friend of the Packers, which is voted on by Packers themselves. In addition to this recognition, Ann also was a National Wilderness Chairperson, and a lifetime member of the Back Country Horsemen Association. Ann was a pivotal member of the Packing community and will be greatly missed by many.

Off To A Great Start

April 2021 kicks off a great first show of the season in Sanger. Thanks to all of the hard work of Kathy, W&KRP and the exhibitors, the Blossom Spring Fling show was a success!

It was so nice to see so many people participate. There was a great turn out specifically for the youth division this year who showed both mules and donkeys. They are our future, so please give them encouragement and acknowledge them for being them!

One of the exhibitors said it best, "It's not about winning or losing. It's about trying and doing your best. It's about showing up and having fun!" Isn't this what it's all about?

Hope to see many of you at the next shows, and Bishop Mule Days is right around the corner. See you all there!



A special thank you to Diane Grimes for assisting with the photography.







Jode's Trail Clinic

Mark your calendars!!! Trainer, Jode Collins is leading a trail clinic in Dunnigan on June 26-27, 2021 and starts at 9am. This facility offers over 50 trail obstacles, perfect for any level rider. There is a \$30 per day fee for each rider, and if you don't have an AMA membership, this will buy you one. For current members, the fee goes toward year end awards. There is a even a spaghetti feed Saturday night for all attendees. Come have fun and make new friends!!!