



BAY AREA BARNS AND TRAILS

BAY AREA BARNS AND TRAILS - EDUCATION, PRESERVATION & STEWARDSHIP
'Helping preserve and grow stables, trails, pastures, staging areas, and horse camps in the San Francisco Bay Area.'

REGIONAL E-NEWS FROM 'BAY AREA BARNS AND TRAILS' | April 5, 2007 | Page 1 of 2

■ **BABTT Newsletters Available.** Let us know if you'd like a batch of our latest newsletters...we would like to have them placed at your tack or feed store and at your organization clubhouse. E-mail your mailing address and the number of copies you'd like.

GRANTS FROM BAY AREA BARNS AND TRAILS (BABTT) AVAILABLE TO BAY AREA EQUESTRIANS

Equestrian coalitions, public and private landowners, land and trail trusts, and non-profit equestrian organizations are invited to apply for small grants (\$500.-\$2,500.) to support land, trail and barn acquisition, restoration, construction, public education, and capacity building. Preference will be given to applicants that have raised matching funds during equestrian-sponsored rides or events.

Since 1999 BABTT has helped conservation-minded equestrians preserve and restore natural areas and wildlife habitat, maintain parks and public open space, equestrian facilities, trails and trailheads by awarding \$98,000. in matching funds to thirty land trusts, agencies and/or equestrian organizations. Application form for 2007 Stewardship, Acquisition, Education and Capacity Building Support can be found on our website: www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17 - CONCORD NAVAL WEAPONS STATION (CNWS) FACTS OPEN HOUSE

The City of Concord will host an informational "Get the Facts" Open House from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Concord Senior Center, 2727 Parkside Circle. The open house is an opportunity for the City to share the information with the community. There will be stations where participants can "get the facts" by studying displays, picking up information and talking to the Reuse Plan team members about the project. Stations will focus on transportation, utilities, natural environment, parks and open space, environmental clean-up, and fiscal and financial issues. This is the first of four workshops in the reuse planning process. Three more will be held this spring and summer to identify land use mixes and evaluate alternative concepts for the property. To learn more about the Concord Community Reuse Project, visit www.concordreuseproject.org or contact Project Director Michael Wright (925) 671-3019.

EQUESTRIAN LAND CONSERVATION RESOURCE MOVES TO LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

4037 Iron Works Pike, Suite 120 Lexington, KY 40511

Acting Director Carolyn Orr invites suggestions from its Equestrian Partners. Check out the updated website to learn more. BABTT encourages all equestrian organizations to support ELCR. ELCR email should be sent to Carolyn Orr, ELCR's Acting Director corr@elcr.org

BABTT sends many, many thanks and a heartfelt round of applause for retiring Executive Director Kandee Haertl who has provided BABTT with wonderful support, encouragement and many kindnesses.

ALAMEDA COUNTY

LIVERMORE AGREES TO PURCHASE HISTORIC FARM

The City of Livermore has reached an agreement to purchase the historic Hagemann Farm on Olivina Avenue. The sale is based on the city finding funds for the \$1.8 million purchase price. The city council on Monday authorized staff to seek out funding sources, programs and both public and nonprofit partnerships to acquire the site. The city has a six-month option period at no cost with two additional six month extensions, at a cost of \$75,000 per extension, to explore funding options. One potential source of funding is a California Cultural and Historical Endowment grant.

Members of the public were enthusiastic about the prospect of having the city purchase the site. John Stein suggested that while the staff said no general fund monies would be used, that using general fund money in a reasonable amount would be appropriate to preserve a part of Livermore's heritage. Historian Anne Homan noted that the ranch house is the oldest wooden building in the area. It was built using spruce brought around the horn from Maine. When the land was purchased by the Mendenhall family, additional rooms were constructed using California redwood. "While the land is surrounded by development, it still has the feeling of a farm. Perhaps it would be a place for the Midway School." Midway School, an historic structure, has been donated to the Livermore Heritage Guild. A site is being sought to move the school. The school is currently on the Mulqueeny Ranch.

Hagemann Farm today consists of about 4.5 acres of what was once a large agricultural estate dating from the 1800s. The original land grant to the Bernal and Pico families covered over 60,000 acres and stretched from Mount Diablo to Sunol. Over the last 170 years, many historically significant names have been associated with the site, including Pico, Bernal, Mendenhall, Hagemann, and Livermore. The site includes one of the oldest remaining farmhouses in the Tri-Valley, built in 1837. There are also historic barns, workshops and other outbuildings. The site qualifies for potential listing in the California and National Registers of Historical Resources as a historic district.

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The former owner, Carl Holm, a direct descendant of the Hagemann family, sold the property to pay off an estate tax liability debt. The asking price was \$3.9 million. The city had considered purchasing the land, but determined it could not afford to do so at that price. At one point, a proposal to develop the site was submitted to the city. It included a request to remove the historic protections from the property's west half to allow for a residential subdivision of the east half. The application was withdrawn and the property placed on the market. It was sold to Steve Bosch, a local residential real estate developer. According to the staff report, Bosch evaluated the historic significance of the site and determined it was unlikely any development would be approved. He then entered into negotiations with the city to have the city purchase the land. Under city ownership the entire site would be preserved and become a municipal historic park.

Mayor Marshall Kamena commented, "We will have a lot of fun planning the site, once we get it."

www.independentnews.com/

Dick Quigley rlquigl@comcast.net

SOLANO COUNTY

Solano Land Trust and Solano County will open Lynch Canyon Open Space to the public with a grand opening ceremony: Friday, May 11, 2007 at 10 a.m.

This partnership represents a historic agreement between SLT and the County to make Lynch Canyon open to the public five days a week, Wednesdays through Sundays. Activities are also being planned for equestrians during the opening weekend - May 11-13. Bay Area Barns and Trails will make a donation of \$1,000 in honor of the event.

Lynch Canyon is a 1,039-acre open space located on the northwest side of I-80 between Vallejo and Fairfield. Lynch Canyon features many miles of trails over rolling hills, including a segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail. The property is home to golden eagles and many other bird species.

It is reached by exiting I-80 at American Canyon Rd. then taking McGary Rd. on the southeast side for about 1.5 miles before turning left under I-80.

Marilyn Farley, SLT Executive Director, expects to make arrangements for hikes, bird-watching, cycling and equestrian events. Please contact her if you are interested in leading such an event at 707-432-0150 ext. 201 or marilyn@solanolandtrust.org. A schedule will be posted on the Solano Land Trust website by April 1. www.solanolandtrust.org

MARIN COUNTY

Horse Hill (saved from development by neighbors, equestrians and environmentalists)



Photo by Robert Eichstaedt who is owned by 25 year old Silver Fox!

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P. O. Box 2435, Mill Valley, California 94941-2435 | Phone 415-383-6283; Fax 415-381-3809; e-mail BABTT@earthlink.net
www.bayareabarnsandtrails.org