

# EQUESTRIAN & Real Estate News



*Devon Carter Camilleri Recognized, Respected, Recommended February 2011 Issue*

## History Of Cutting



1800s began using their best horses to separate individual cows from a herd, it was part of the daily job. They would never have imagined cutting as one of the world's most popular equine sports. But each year, thousands of cutting events--from Austin to Australia--attract riders aged eight to eighty.

Cutting's heritage runs strong and deep, like the centuries-old mesquites that flourish on the Texas plains. From Chisholm Trail to present day, cutting horses have been indispensable tools in the cattle trade.

During the era of the open range, cattle from one outfit often drifted and mingled with those of other outfits. Twice a year, in the spring and the fall, neighboring ranchers would join in a roundup to sort out their brands.

Every outfit traveled with a remuda of horses. Within the remuda each cowboy had a string of horses, some of them more suitable for one job than another. For instance, a cowhand needed a steady mount to patrol the herd during the night, but in the morning he could ride last year's bronc to the far reaches of the roundup circle.

The cutting horse was an elite member of the remuda. A typical cutting horse might have started out in a cowboy's string, but his sensitivity to cattle brought him to the attention of the roundup boss. He was the horse that pricked his ears toward a cow and followed her with his eyes. He instinctively knew not to crowd her, yet was wary of her every move. He made the difficult job of separating cattle easier and quicker. He even made it fun.

**A** nineteenth century cowboy transplanted to the present day would probably be perplexed by the modern world's high-tech marvels. But he'd still feel right at home at a cutting horse show.

When American cowboys of the

"It was worth the trip to brush country just to sit above Ol' Gotch and feel his shoulders roll, watch his ears work and his head drop low when he looked an old steer in the eye," said cowboy humorist Will Rogers after a visit to a South Texas ranch during the 1920s.

As big cattle outfits gave way to small farms and ranches in the twentieth century, pickup trucks and squeeze chutes took the place of cow horses. A few large ranches still rounded up cattle the old-fashioned way, but cutting horses were fast becoming obsolete. Today, the National Cutting

Horse Association has given the cutting horse new life in one of the world's most exciting equine events.

The first advertised cutting contest was held at the 1898 Cowboy Reunion in Haskell, Texas. Fifteen thousand people, lured by ads in the Dallas News and the Kansas City Star, attended. Since the nearest railroad was fifty miles away, they came on horseback, or by wagon and hack.

The cutting contest offered a prize of \$150, a substantial sum in those days, and 11 riders entered. Old Hub--whose fans swore that he could work blindfolded and without a bridle--was brought out of retirement by Sam Graves for this one event.

Graves primed the 22-year-old horse with oat mash and prairie hay, then he tied Old Hub to the back of a hack and led him all the way to Haskell--a two-day journey. It was a trip into the history books, and Graves set aside half of his winnings to ensure Old Hub had the best of care for the rest of his days.

The first record of cutting as an arena spectator event came at the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show in Fort Worth, Texas, when a cutting horse exhibition was added to the annual rodeo in 1919. It became a competitive event the following year.

By 1946, there were so many cutting horse contests being held, under so many different sets of conditions and rules, that a group of 13 cutting horse owners met at the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show and decided to form an association to establish standard rules and procedures for holding such competition.

One of the founders, Ray Smyth, said, "When the meeting

*(continued Pg. 4)*

## Equestrian Events February 2011

- **Feb 3-6, Pomona** – Equine Affaire, Pomona Fairplex, [www.equineaffaire.com](http://www.equineaffaire.com), (740) 845-0085
- **Feb 5, Sunland/Tujunga** - Free Horsemanship Clinic, Weston Transformation Workshop, 1st Saturday of every month, Celie, 818-352-7709, [cw@celieweston.com](mailto:cw@celieweston.com)
- **Feb 5, Ramona** - Ranch Sorting and Shootout, CowHorse Ranch Cattle Club, Every Saturday, [www.cowhoseranch.com](http://www.cowhoseranch.com)
- **Feb 5, Hemet** - 12 Acre Obstacle Course, Cactus Valley Equestrian Center, open to the public the first Saturday of every month, 951-766-0246, [info@cactusvalleyequestriancenter.com](mailto:info@cactusvalleyequestriancenter.com), [www.cactusvalleyequestriancenter.com](http://www.cactusvalleyequestriancenter.com)
- **Feb 6, Hollywood** - "Stand Up For Horses", After the Finish Line comedy fundraiser, is Sunday, at the IMPROV ~ Hollywood, Dawn (858) 945-1371 or [dawn@afterthefinishline.org](mailto:dawn@afterthefinishline.org), [www.afterthefinishline.org](http://www.afterthefinishline.org)
- **Feb 10-13, Burbank** - Show Me the Money Quarter Horse Circuit Show, Los Angeles Equestrian Center, Track One Events at 714-444-2918
- **Feb 12, Ramona** - Ranch Sorting and Shootout, CowHorse Ranch Cattle Club, Every Saturday, [www.cowhoseranch.com](http://www.cowhoseranch.com)
- **Feb 12, Woodcrest** - Monthly clinics with Jutta Schott Feitlehrer FN, Listons Stables [www.listonstables.com](http://www.listonstables.com)
- **Feb 13, Palos Verdes** - FREE Wellness Clinic, Introduction to learning how to interpret your horse's physical signs, 310-488-4389 Email: [susielytal@theworthyhorse.com](mailto:susielytal@theworthyhorse.com)
- **Feb 18-20, Burbank** - Gold Coast 1 Hunter / Jumper Show, Los Angeles Equestrian Center, Langer Equestrian Group at 818-567-7317
- Feb 19, Ramona - Ranch Sorting and Shootout, CowHorse Ranch Cattle Club, Every Saturday, [www.cowhoseranch.com](http://www.cowhoseranch.com)
- Feb 25-27, Burbank - Mid-Winter Dressage Show, Los Angeles Equestrian Center, Cornerstone Ltd. at 818-841-3554
- Feb 26, Ramona - Ranch Sorting and Shootout, CowHorse Ranch Cattle Club, Every Saturday, [www.cowhoseranch.com](http://www.cowhoseranch.com)
- Feb 27, Temecula - Southern California Professional Horse-show Association Show, [www.calprohorseshow.org](http://www.calprohorseshow.org)



If you have an event that you would like me to include in an upcoming newsletter, email me the information at [Devon@LandAndEstateHomes.com](mailto:Devon@LandAndEstateHomes.com)

## Silly Valentine

It's Valentine's day,  
And it's really quite silly:  
My feelings are switching around  
Willy-nilly.

I'm happy, SO happy!  
Then I'm feeling SO sad;  
I'm gloomy, I'm joyful  
Oh man, this is bad!  
My body is clammy,  
Then I'm in a deep sweat;  
Sometimes I'm giddy,  
Sometimes I fret.

I'm looking for comfort food  
Deep in the frig;  
Often I think  
I could jump off a bridge.

What is the reason  
For all the above?  
It's Valentine's Day,  
And I'm SO in love!  
By Joanna Fuchs





## 10.41 Acres of Potential

All usable 10.41 acres just off of Hwy 79 and Paradise Valley Road with lots of potential for equestrians, possible grape crops or estate homesite, has electric and well water. Homesite location has views of local mountains and beautiful sunsets. Must see!

**Offered at \$182,500**



### Available Properties

**Entertain In Style, Bonsall** - 4 Bedroom/3 Bath • 2812 Sq. Ft. Home • Single Level • 1.85 Acres • Granite Counters • Master Retreat • Dual Pane Windows • Vaulted Ceilings • Master Retreat • Pool/Spa • Entertainers Patio • Fire Pit • Views • Fully Fenced • Level & Gently Sloping • Horses Allowed w/ L Designation • Avocado Grove w/ 22 Trees • Room for RV.....**Offered at \$889,900**

**IN ESCROW - Custom Built Fallbrook Beauty** - 4 bed/2.5 ba • 3500 sq. ft. • 3.22 Acres • Sophisticated Single Story • Built 2004 • Luxurious Master Suite w/ Dual Fireplace • Custom Tile & Granite • Formal Dining and Living Rooms • Hardwood Floors • Views • Custom 2 Stall Barn • 3 Car Garage • Trails from the Property .....**Reduced to Sell!!! \$600,000**

**Cape Cod Beauty in Fallbrook** - .84 Acres • 3 Bed/2 Bath • 2-Story • Custom Home • Views • Private Yet Close to Town • Entry Level Den/Office/Library • Many Built-Ins • Lots of Storage • Large Deck & Pool w/ Waterfall • Bonus Room Above 3-Car Detached Garage • Circular Driveway • RV Dump/Hookups • No CC&R's • Room for Horses & Toys.....**Offered At \$525,000**

**Custom Menifee Beauty on 2+ Acres** - 4 + Optional Bed/3 Baths • 2.05 Flat Acres • 4,094 Sq Ft Home • Porcelain Tiles/ Wood Floors • Maple Cabinets • Fireplace in Family Room & Master • All Living Space on 1st Floor • Large Bonus/Game Room on 2nd Floor • Fully Fenced & Gated • Zoned For Horses • Room for Barn, Arenas & Pastures.....**Reduced to Sell!!! \$449,500**

**IN ESCROW - 18+ Acres in Valley Center** - 18.71 Acres • 3 Bed/2 Bath • Large Bedrooms • Tile Baths • Pot Belly Stove • 2,172 Sq Ft • Remodeled Home • 360° Views • 2,400 Sq Ft Steel Garage • RV Parking, Hookup/Dump • 5 Pads For Corrals • Miles of Trails from Property • Plenty of Room for Horses/Facilities • Privacy, Beauty & Peacefulness!.....**Reduced to Sell!!! \$465,000**

### Lots & Land

**9.38 Acre Lot - Valley Center** - Flat & Usable • Perfect for Horse Ranch • Secluded but Close to All • Lots of California Oaks • Stream • Permitted 2,620 Steel Tractor/Equipment Barn.....**Reduced to Sell!!! \$399,500**

**Hilltop Building Site - Fallbrook** - 4 Acres • Horses Allowed • Close to Town Yet All the Country Feel • Approved 5 Bedroom Septic • Trail Access • Health Department Approved • Perc Test Complete.....**Offered at \$269,000**

**10.41 Acres of Possibility** - All useable • Hwy 79 & Paradise Valley Rd. • Lots of Potential for Equestrians • Possible Grape Crops or Estate Homesite • Electric & Well Water • Homesite location has views of mountains and beautiful sunsets.....**Offered at \$182,500**

For a private viewing of any of these homes or to receive a FREE market analysis on your home call Devon at (760) 522-8559

[www.RanchAndEstateHomes.com](http://www.RanchAndEstateHomes.com)



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**DRE #01047285**



My business is built on your referrals! I focus 100% of my energy on my clients and in return I depend on you to refer your family and friends to me. If you are genuinely pleased with my services, the greatest compliment you can give me is a referral. Referrals are what determine my success ... one home at a time, one friend at a time, one client at a time. I thank you for your trust and sincerely hope you will tell your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers about my services. If you know someone who is thinking of selling or buying a home, please have them call me at **760.522.8559**

*Thank You For Your Referrals!*

*Most folks are like a barb-wire fence, they have their good points.*

**PAGE 4**

—Unknown

## History Of Cutting

*(continued from Pg. 1)*

broke up, we had formed what we thought would be more or less a local cutting horse association. Someone remarked that with luck, we might even get as many as 50 members by another year."

Later, at a meeting in Mineral Wells, Texas, the association was incorporated, and Pat Dalton suggested the name 'National Cutting Horse Association,' because it looked as though it had the potential to grow into something big.

The first show was held in Dublin, Texas, in the fall of 1946.

Smyth recalled that secretary-treasurer Volney Hildreth guarded the association's resources "with a big stick. If we wanted anything that cost money, Volney would tell us to get enough new members to pay for it."

When NCHA was formed, most cutting horses were ranch geldings like Old Paint, a brown and white horse of unknown parentage that Smyth bought for \$40 at Weatherford trade days. Old Paint became one of cutting's first champions.

But some of the big ranches had been breeding their own horses for years. The world famous King Ranch had a

remuda of copper-colored horses descended from the Old Sorrel. Yellow Jacket horses, with golden coats and black manes and tails, filled the Burnett's Triangle Ranch pastures; while the Pitchfork outfit was known for cast-iron cow ponies sired by Grey Badger.

By 1963, the association recorded the results of 727 events, of which 504 were recognized as NCHA championship events. In those days, cutters vied for a piece of \$404,183 in prize money. That included \$23,225 paid out at that year's NCHA Futurity.

Fast-forward to 2006, and the contestants at the NCHA Futurity will be divvying up more than \$3.7 million--over a hundred times the offering of that first year. Total purses at NCHA-approved shows now exceed \$39 million annually.

Yet for many, cutting's greatest rewards are intangible. The bond between people and horses that makes the sport so special, also links it to the sweat and dust of the Old West, and sets it apart from all other events.

"The people who brought cutting from the open range to the arena, and turned the skills of the cowman and cowboy into the contest, were real sports," said Buster Welch, a legendary cutting champion. "That fine sportsmanship is still alive and well in cutting today."

*Information courtesy of www.nchacutting.com*