



**A Message from your Executive  
Director  
Cathy Fitzpatrick**

**Stable Hands  
Non-Profit of the Year**

In celebrating our 15<sup>th</sup> year in 2011, Stable Hands was honored by being nominated and voted "Non-Profit Organization of the Year", by the Yreka Chamber of Commerce. The award was accepted by co-founder, Instructor and Occupational Therapist Marcia Cushman-Perkins. The award highlights the success of a program driven by people who value their community and *all its'* members. Stable Hands started in Marcia's backyard years ago with 4 participants. These days the program is blessed to operate on the beautiful Double H Ranch, owned by Pat and Mickey Hayes, has over 60 participants and nearly 70 volunteers. The organization has expanded in recent years to include wounded veterans and their families in the "Horses for Heroes" program.

We at Stable Hands are very proud to be named Non-Profit of the year. Please come celebrate with us at our annual Gala Dinner and Auction on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Many of our founders and volunteers over the years will be there. From a backyard program with 4 participants to a 1,000

acre ranch with over 60 participants...we have much to celebrate! See you there.



**Stable Hands Horses for Heroes**

Horses for Heroes is growing! This Spring we served seven Veterans and trained five additional Veteran volunteers. Although most had very limited or no experience with horses, they are a hard working bunch and quickly mastered grooming, tacking, leading and basic riding skills. Now they are anxious to hit the trails and explore the beautiful Double H Ranch this summer.

To support this program, we received a very generous donation of \$2500 from Nevada Dental Benefits. Thank you! In addition, Mickey and Pat Hayes are hosting a spaghetti

dinner at the ranch on July 27<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. This event will demonstrate to supporters what we are doing for Veterans right here in Siskiyou County. Please RSVP by July 23 to 842-3082.

## Fargo's Barn Report

Happy Spring, I think, to all my Stable Hands friends. Since Sharkey is now retired, he has asked me to take over his Barn Report duties. As I said, Sharkey was retired from Stable Hands in November. In May he returned to the Hart Ranch. He is turned out in a beautiful pasture with three of his old ranch buddies. We thank the Hart Ranch for the privilege and joy of having Sharkey for so many years. Fanci is retired too and continues to live with us at Nancy's.

This year's herd contains both old and new faces. Hershey, Snoopy, Little Red, Sunni, Blondie, Pistol Pete and I want to extend a warm welcome to Toby, Country, and Frankie. Toby was with Stable Hands many years ago when we operated out of Marcia's backyard. He then became a young girl's horse for a number of years and now that she is older, has come back to Stable Hands. Toby came back in as if he was never gone. We also want to welcome Country and Frankie into the program. Country is currently being used in the program and Frankie is "in therapy horse training". Country and Frankie are both big strong horses.

We have just completed a wonderful spring session out at the Hayes Ranch. All of the rain and snow Siskiyou County got this winter has made for a very lush and green spring. The herd enjoyed a very busy spring session with over 60 clients. We are getting ready for an exciting summer session beginning June fourteenth.

Help support our horse herd with:

Alfalfa hay donations  
Fly masks and fly spray  
Grange Co-Op gift cards. Call 541-772-4370 for the Medford Grange. You can purchase a card over the phone and it will be held at the store.  
Donation to the Horse Sponsorship Fund  
Sponsor a horse for a session \$250  
Looking forward to summer, new clients, new volunteers and a great summer session.

See you at the Gala July ninth.



Fargo

## Stable Hands 2011 Gala Dinner & Auction July 9, 2011

This year's affair promises to be another exciting, fun filled evening. Darrin Mercier will be entertaining us again as auctioneer and "Tom & Leslie" (formally North of Forty), will provide the music. The full course dinner, with fine wines, will be prepared to perfection by Raymond Zanni Catering. Some of the fabulous items to be auctioned include a model XS7 .243 Winchester Rifle with Scope donated by Churchill Insurance and Girdner Funeral Chapel, metal sculpture by Ralph Starritt and Stan Ellison, custom wood furniture by John Fitzpatrick, a week in Cozumel, Mexico, artwork by Willo Balfrey and Susan Nihen, and a Hawaiian fishing net by Ralph Akana. If you have an item you would like to donate to the auction, please call the Stable Hands office at 842-3082. We want to thank Zeke Buchert for contributing his

beautiful photo for the Gala invitation. Hope to see you all there!

## In Memory of Gene "Putch" Dauber

**6/11/1918 – 5/10/2011**



I first heard about Putch from my husband Jay in 1999. He and Larry stopped off in Avenal while hauling equipment to Mexico for Teen Edge. At that time Putch told him he couldn't wait to move to Yreka so he could volunteer at Stable Hands. I thought Wow – I can't wait to meet him. Shortly after moving he did volunteer, leading horses and side-walking with riders. When he wasn't needed elsewhere, he'd grab a curry comb and a brush and find a horse that needed grooming. One of his favorites was a little mare named Fanci, who came to us from a rescue ranch with scars on her face. As he brushed her, he'd tell her how pretty she was and reminisced about the horses he had known in his life. He told me once he'd be happy just to come out and

smell the horse manure. Well, manure wasn't the word he used, but you get the idea.

He promised to keep volunteering until he was 90 and he did. Even when his eyesight dimmed and he could no longer drive himself, Violet, Nancy and Larry made sure that he got to Stable Hands each week. Over time he became the Gate Keeper. He stood at the gate in his cowboy hat, boots and long sleeved snap up shirt. There he would greet each rider as they came through, and tell them "Have a good ride young fella", "Have a good ride young lady." And some would smile, or wave or say Thanks Putch.

As you know, Putch was a big, strong manly man. But much more than that he was a gentle man.

Thank you Violet, Nancy, Larry, Sadie and Logan for sharing this very special man with us.

And Putch – Thank you and You have a good ride young fella.

Marcia Cushman-Perkins

**Help Wanted: Volunteer Coordinator** for Stable Hands, starting Fall 2011. Small stipend included. If you are interested, please contact Cathy Fitzpatrick. (530)598-9405.

**Help Wanted: Part time** clerical position for the Stable Hands office. Computer savvy a

must. Contact Cathy Fitzpatrick for more information. (530)598-9405.

### **Recycling:**

Please consider taking your (separated) recycle products to Yreka Transfer Recycling at 231 Ranch Lane, (near Greenhorn Park) Yreka, CA. Choose 'Stable Hands' or 'Horses for Heroes' and your money from recycling will go directly to the program of your choice. Yreka Transfer and Recycling is open Tuesdays – Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Thank you.

### **Board Members**

Dianne Torpin, President  
Kay Dye, Vice-President  
Linda Priem, CFO  
Leigh Schriver , Secretary  
Susan Nicoson  
Susana Fox-Sponsler

### **Dates to Remember**

Summer Session began June 14, 2011  
Gala Dinner and Auction July 09, 2011  
Horses for Heroes Spaghetti Dinner July 27, 2011

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Please send comments and additions to:  
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