

November 23, 2008

Dear Cascade Club Members,

I can't believe this is my last letter as President to you all. I am excited to announce your new board members.



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## Cascade Icelandic Horse Club

- President Rachel Knowlton
- Vice President Sandy Solberg
- Secretary Jean Waller
- Treasurer Claudia Rancore
- Membership Chair Lisa Roland
- Members at Large: Cindy Seibert and Lori Birge

Our first meeting of the year is on February 7<sup>th</sup>. We will be meeting in Ridgefield, WA and the location will be announced later. Contact Rachel Knowlton with questions and watch the Members Only list. We have lots of exciting things happening next year so please try to make it, but if you can't, please send someone you trust with ideas and suggestions!

I have learned so very much having had the honor of serving the club as President for the last 4 years. I am nostalgic about those years, but happy to have some open space for new tasks that will surely find their ways to me. I am excited about the board you have chosen. I am positive that they will serve us well as our club grows and changes. I encourage each of you to find a way to connect with the amazing members (both two-leggeds and four-leggeds) of our club.

Hosting a ride in your area really lets people have the opportunity to explore all the diverse terrain the Pacific Northwest has to offer. Supporting participation in clinics, parades, demos, shows, evaluations, and formal rides allows our breed to be seen, touched and loved by people who may never get the opportunity except for you.

What a wonderful group of people you are! I feel so blessed to have found Karen B., Janella, Sarah and Tinna who started this journey for me. Through them, each of you have become important to me. This has been an experience far beyond my greatest hopes. I found myself surrounded with horses and people that I love and learning, learning, learning. Thanks for your support and trust. See you at the meeting if not sooner.

Thank you, Thank you,  
Lisa M. McKeen

**Clinic at Red Feather Ranch**

by Rachel Knowlton

**I wanted to thank Svanny, Linda and Dick for making this past weekend such a memorable clinic. Svanny's instruction was so helpful in learning how to participate and compete in an Icelandic Horse Show. It was fun watching the other clinic participants and learning from their horses. It was apparent that each rider/horse pair was having fun and the fun was contagious. Dick and Linda provided an incredible facility with an amazing backdrop of Mt. Adams. Angela was so kind to take us on a trail ride on Friday. Everything was super....kind people, trusting horses, beautiful scenery and an environment of Icelandic horses owners who were supportive of all participants and empowered with their horse to progress along the riding continuum. I hope more events like this will continue. The food was fantastic too! Thank you Svanny, Linda and Dick!**



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**FOR SALE:**

**Bylur fra Bonsall\*8 yr.  
Gelding\*13.2 hands\*5  
gaited\*natural  
tolt\*\$5800.00\***

**contact Nancy Denson\***

**ndenson@tworiversfarm.com**

## NEW COMPANIONS

After nearly a year of searching for just the right horses we now have our Iceys! Barb found her 9 year old Dottla fra Pegasus a couple of months ago and I just bought my 7 year old Andi fra Alfasaga last Saturday. We have our new barn/small covered arena mostly finished and are putting up new fences around the pastures. We'll be ready to welcome them home after Dawn Shaw finishes their gait training.

Many thanks to all the Club members and others who provided us with much needed information, advice and assistance and let us ride their horses during our search.

Thanks to Patti E. for agreeing to part with her wonderful Andi and helping the two of us get used to each other. I'm a novice rider with few trail miles and Andi has lots of them. I rode Andi around the arena for awhile. Then Patti took us for about a 2 hour trail ride around her place (great trail riding country!). We started out on an easy trail then she gradually introduced Andi and me to more and more challenging spots, up and down steeper hills, across streams, over various bridges, over logs/branches, big rocks, etc. Andi handled everything like a champ, was calm and easy going and I didn't even start to fall off! It was great!

When we got back and got Andi un-tacked he nuzzled his head under my arm and just left it there for awhile . . . like he was picking me or something. Well, what could I do? :-)

Our special thanks goes to Dawn Shaw who, for many months has been our advisor/mentor/trainer and spent countless hours on the phone, communicating via email and in person helping us learn more about Icelandic Horses and get the right ones.

I attached a picture of, from left to right, my youngest son Matt on Sola, me on Andi and Dawn on Dottla, just before we took off on a nice trail ride around Dawn and Ian's place last Sunday. I also put the picture in an album (Andi and Dottla) in the Yahoo CascadeIceHorseClub Group photo section which can be found via this link:

<http://pets.ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/CascadeIceHorseClub/photos/browse/dbc3>

See you on the trails, in clinics, at meetings, etc.!

Ron and Barb Pitney



### **EVERGREEN GAITED**

By Lori Binge

The Evergreen Gaited Horse Show was held July 19 & 20 in Puyallup. There were 6 Icelandic-only classes, 2 of which were schooling classes. The Cascade Club had 6 horses competing, and 1 horse present for the experience. There were also a number of members who came in support but did not ride. The riders were surprised in the tolt class when the judge asked for first a trot and then a canter. Luckily, all of the riders were also signed up for the 4 gait class, so Dawn spoke to the judge about changing the 4 gait to the original tolt class. Four different riders placed first, so it was a good mix of competition and fun for all involved. Two of the horses also competed in open classes with all of the different gaited horses, but the judge obviously was crazy because she didn't place either of the Icelandic horses. We all know that Icelandics are cuter and better than the other gaited breeds. We'll just have to expose more judges to our favorite breed so that they become better informed. All of the Icelandic people did have a chance to hang out and talk about horses, so it was a fun weekend.



### **Cape Blanco Beachride**

By Gwen Feero

**Last weekend was the S. Coast beach ride at Cape Blanco. A friend of mine with a Fjord, went with us. Staci brought her new horse, Buck, and I had both of my fuzzies. Kim had not only her Fjord, but also her daughter Megan and Megan's POA. We all had a blast. It was the first trip to the ocean for most of the horses except Hilmir and Meyla, and we were trying out a new camping site.**

**Great site, it has a huge circle with a center common area, large stalls or corrals, both pull through and back-in sites, and only a short walk to the main camp for showers. The trail to the beach is very steep with switchbacks that we chose not to negotiate. Too many first timers for that to comfortable. We had even grabbed one of the off-duty park rangers and put him on one of my extra mounts. So, we weren't going to do anything technical. Beautiful scenery, and plenty of trails going inland, or down to the estuary and the lighthouse keeper's house, etc. There is one 150 acre area set aside just for horse back riding.**

**If you and your horse are fit and used to steep trail, the beach trail would be a piece of cake. We just weren't ready for it this year, but we'll be ready next time. I didn't get any pics the whole weekend, mostly because two out of the three rides, I was ponying Meyla and had my hands full. I think Kim has quite a few pics, and I'll see if I can borrow them.**

**So, here's the deal. Regardless of club participation, we have decided to go back to Bullards state park next year. The camp is a bit smaller, but the beach access is much easier. We're thinking maybe in July. Bullards Beach horse camp fills up almost immediately nine months out so if you decide to join, don't wait to make the reservations. The reservation system is a pain in the rear, but it is worth it. It would be so cool to have at least one other family with us. My husband might even be persuaded to bring his boat and crab pots out. Please consider actually joining us. It was a blast and you won't regret it.**

**I'm thinking we'll try Cape Blanco again in '10.**

**Gwen**

### **Horsing Around**

(a few pictures submitted by members)

Top to bottom: Jean W. on Stella, Mandy on Eldur jumping and Katie, Karen B., Diane and Lisa R.



## AN AMAZING TIME

by Sasha Roland

Wow. It is so cool to watch the whole entire process of a horse giving birth to a foal. I did not know what was going on until I saw a foot (or a hoof) sticking out! But I was not the only child that saw it; my cousin, her friend, my Aunt and Uncle, my brother and my sister saw it to. At first I thought that the mom, Koko, was going to the bathroom- but then *my* mom and dad said that ' her water has broken.' I kept on wondering what that meant until my mom told me.

Megan (my cousin) and her friend had never ever seen a horse give birth, so it was good for her to see. I was so excited that I had started shaking really badly! Right after the baby was born, Koko got up and started to lick him.

The skin from the sac that the baby was in had already popped and was half way off his head, but mom (my mom) still had to go in and pull it off his face. That is when he started to try to get up and walk, but he still had skin on his body, so my mom had to go back in there and pull it off some more. But then he *still* had the skin tangled around his hind legs so mom had to go in a *third* time to help him.

And then the show was over and in half an hour he was walking and drinking!

During the birth we had to be quiet and let Koko be, but our dog, Whiskey, was whining loudly so we had to put him away. Then, after the baby was walking around, we let the dog out and he was just *vicious* to the baby! So the only way he could go out of the house was on a leash with one of us. The next morning, the strangest thing happened-I swear that dog had adopted the baby and he was in with the baby every chance he got.

The morning after the birth the baby was rolling around and he would not, or really he *could* not get up so we carried him into the trailer with his mom and took him to the vet-but by the time we got there he was up and drinking and looking all alert! We

took him in just in case. Now he is running pretty much all the time and is really quite playful.

And that is my story of when my mare gave birth.





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## **Cascade Icelandic Horse Club**

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The last newsletter of the season! Please forgive me for not including everything that may have been submitted! After deleting the whole thing by mistake and having to start all over, my respect for the people who are able to just whip out a newsletter has grown immensely!!!

Lisa R.