



We Californians pray for rain, then curse it. Mid-February's heavy rains saw stable owners and event organizers scrambling to cope with downpours that in some areas included four and five inches of rain in one day. Even arenas and stable properties ideally designed to handle water have a hard time with that.

The upside was once again seeing the California equestrian community come together to help each other out, because of flooding this time, not fires. The Southern California Equine Emergency Evacuation Facebook page helped match owners who needed to get their horses out of waters' way with those who could haul them to safe stabling. As with the fires, offers of help often exceeded the need.

Area VI Eventing board members scrambled to find a new venue when the big tent for their annual Awards Banquet in Fresno blew over two days before and couldn't be re-erected.

At week two of the Adequan West Coast Dressage Festival in Temecula, organizer Scott Hayes made an emergency run to the building supply store as the forecast got grim. He purchased miles of plastic sheeting to spread over the main dressage court, in hopes that some showing could continue after Thursday's deluge. It did continue in the form of an improvised "Jackpot" show, in which riders at any level were invited to ride their test in front of top judges and on footing expertly maintained by the Galway Downs crew.

Grand Prix rider Terri Rocovich was one of those who welcomed the opportunity to ride Saturday Feb. 16 and she appreciated the efforts that made it possible. "All the people involved in this show are just amazing positive people to be around," she posted on Facebook that day.

March 2019 - Editor's Notes

Written by CRM

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“So considerate and accommodating for horses and riders in less than ideal weather.”



She encouraged the California dressage community to reciprocate by “coming out in force to support Scott Hayes and SH Productions in their efforts to bring top notch shows to the West Coast that could rival anything in Florida. It takes a village, so get your entries in for the 3rd show in today!”

We agree. That third week of AWCDF takes place Feb. 27-March 3, followed by #4 April 10-14, then two more in the fall, all at Galway Downs in Temecula.

Thanks to Classic Equine Equipment for sponsoring this issue’s cover. When the weather means more time spent in the barn, best to be in a stable outfitted with this company’s beautifully and thoughtfully designed stalls and accessories. Hope you enjoy the rest of the issue filled with stories about our awesome Area VI eventers and tips on pest and parasite prevention as we head into spring.

As always, we welcome story ideas, news, article submissions, clinic coverage, etc. Let us know what you want to read about by contacting editor Kim F Miller at kimfmiller1@mac.com or calling 949-644-2165.

Happy reading and riding!

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