



December 2022
Hoof Beats

550 White Oak Drive
Santa Rosa Ca, 95409
(707) 539-8629
(707) 539-8634 [Reservation voice mail]
<http://www.wildoaksaddleclub.com>

President's Message
By Jolene Cortright

I can't believe November is over already! How did that happen?

This Thanksgiving, many of our members and their families celebrated together, dining at the Club's Thanksgiving Day feast, enjoying Chef Joe's special, extravagant menu. Others of us celebrated with loved ones elsewhere, almost wishing we could be two places at once, to simultaneously enjoy our Saddle Club family as well. At the Cortrights, we hosted a crowd of 18 and chose to augment our meal with some of Chef Joe's house-smoked ham and yams! Like us, many people had some or all of their Thanksgiving meals augmented with the terrific to-go options that were offered. Many thanks to Chef Joe, the kitchen and service staff who make life easier for our membership!

December days and nights at the Club are quite filled with member, company and other holiday parties. We are fortunate to have such a great venue to host these special occasions. And, although they are heavily tasked at this time of year, Lori and her staff continue to make these events well executed and memorable. Thank you to all the WOSC staff for their tireless efforts!

Some of you have questioned our finances and status as a 501(c)(7). Please see Kathie Leader's article which is included in this issue of Hoof Beats.

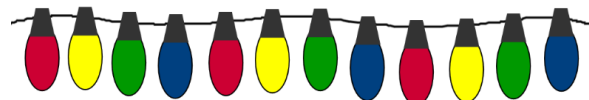
I look forward to seeing many of you throughout the month of December at the Club, especially at our Christmas party and the always festive and fun New Year's Eve dinner party.

Just a reminder: Don't forget to vote in the Board election. **To be counted, ballots must be received at the Club office by 1:00pm on January 17th.**

May your holidays be warm and cheerful!

Hope to see you and enjoy the beauty of the season together at the Club.

Where would you rather be?



**Happy
Holidays!**

Social Activities for December & January

December 2	Friday Night Farm-to-Fork Dinner
December 4	Sunday Brunch
December 6	Tightwad Tuesday
December 9	Friday Night Dinner, Mixed Grill
December 11	NO Sunday Brunch WOSC Holiday Party 5:00-7:30pm
December 13	Tightwad Tuesday, Taco Night
December 16	Friday Night Prime Rib Dinner
December 18	Sunday Brunch
December 20	Tightwad Tuesday
December 23	Club Closed for Friday Night Dinner; with Lunch Service Only
December 25	Closed for Holiday
December 27	Tightwad Tuesday, Fish & Chips
December 30	Club Closed; No Lunch or Dinner Service
December 31	New Year's Eve Dinner (There are only a few spots left) Club opens at 5:00pm, Dinner at 7:00, Evening concludes at 9:00
January 1	Sunday Brunch
January 3	Tightwad Tuesday Fried Chicken Dinner
January 6	Friday Night Dinner
January 8	Sunday Brunch
January 10	Tightwad Tuesday
January 13	Friday Night Farm-to-Fork Dinner
January 15	Sunday Brunch
January 17	Annual Club Meeting 5:00PM No Tightwad Tuesday Dinner
January 20	Friday Night Dinner
January 22	Sunday Brunch
January 24	Tightwad Tuesday
January 27	Friday Night Prime Rib Dinner
January 29	Sunday Brunch
January 31	Tightwad Tuesday

News from GM Lori ... Special Events

December

- Holiday Party 5:00 – 7:30pm December 11
No Sunday Brunch on December 11
 - Prime Rib Night December 16
 - Lunch Service only, No Friday Dinner December 23
 - Club Closed, No Lunch or Dinner Service December 30
 - New Year's Eve Dinner December 31
- Club opens at 5:00pm, Dinner at 7:00, Evening concludes at 9:00

January

- Annual Club Meeting 5:00PM January 17
- Prime Rib Night January 27

New Year's Eve Party

As of Dec. 1, guests may be included to attend the New Year's Eve party, provided there is room. Since we have a limited number of spots available, please communicate directly with Lori if you wish to add guests to your existing reservation.

Arts & Entertainment Update from Bob Briner

An alert from Bob Briner for the upcoming entertainment season. With suggestions from several members (many thanks), I have been reaching out to bring us some new talent and to rebook some of our favorites. Here is the line-up:

Nov 18 - TJ Carter- Country and Western singer- thank you to Glen Smith & BJ Patnode

Dec 2 - Rebecca Roudman and her Renegade orchestra - Dirty Cello done large

Dec 31 - Bud E Luv band - courtesy of Phil Claypool

April 28, 2023 - Unauthorized Rolling Stones Band, thanks to Cristie Marcus

June 28, 2023 - Alpha Rhythm Kings- Return engagement

July 28, 2023 - Drew Harrison and the Sun Kings, John Lennon wannabe (still negotiating)

Aug 25, 2023 - Tommy Thomsen - perennial favorite

Sept 29, 2023 - 7th Sons Band, featuring Frankie Adel, former lead singer for Sha Na Na;
Classic 60s to 80s

Oct 27, 2023 - Open (so far)

I will provide a future update as the open and tentative dates solidify. Stay tuned! Lots of wonderful entertainment to come.

Let the Good Times Roll!

The Sports & Activities Report from Kari Briner

We are thrilled to announce that our WOSC Activities Directory has been finalized. The directory will appear on our website and also be available in printed form in our Clubhouse. Again, it is impressive to see how many groups with different interests and activities gather to enjoy our Club each week. Each activity has designated people for interested folks to contact. This will be a fluid document and edited as needed. Thanks to Lori's staff, the Clubhouse card room and Bunkhouse have been spruced up and some amenities added to make them even more welcoming! Also, in that we are trying to provide water, tea and coffee to the inside groups, please alert Lori when your plans change, particularly a cancelation or a change in your number of participants that week. Please email Kari Vigeland-Briner at kvigeland04@gmail.com with general questions, changes to the directory, or if you might like to add an activity to the schedule.

Looking ahead, with the help of Melissa Bowers, we plan to offer a pickleball demonstration in the spring. It is a wildly popular sport and we have two courts! If interested in learning, the Finley Center offers weekly instruction. You can also access weekly classes as an Oakmont resident offered by the OVA. Both are great opportunities to acquire the basics. Go for it! We will send out details about the demonstrations as they develop. We are also investigating an online court reservation system which will help our members plan their sporting activities.

And our big "**Tah-Dah**" is the return of the very popular WOSC **Lunch and Learn!** We will be enjoying this on a quarterly basis with Gaye LeBaron as our premier speaker in early February. This will be a fascinating experience as Gaye is such a treasured phenomenon. We also welcome your suggestions and ideas for further presentations throughout the year.

How exciting! Stay tuned for details. Looking forward to more fun times in 2023!

Book Club Meeting, December 13th

News from Kathy Langs

The December 13th Book Club meeting will take place at 4:00 pm. We will be reviewing and discussing the book titled "Big Alma, San Francisco's Alma Spreckels" a biography by Bernice Scharlach. The author writes about the life and times of a truly amazing woman who rose from poverty to become one of San Francisco's most powerful, wealthy and interesting personalities. She scandalized San Francisco society, but also is responsible for many positive and famous contributions of art and architecture to the "city by the bay."

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday wishes to these wonderful members!

Our December birthdays are:

Andrea Learned, Clay Clement, Cristina Wadsworth, David Harris, Don Ammons,
Gary Simmons, Gertrude Reynaud, Gordon Freedman, Jann Doherty, Jeannie Calverley,
Joe Pundyk, Karen Schraga, Kevin Konicek, Larry Simons, Leila O'Callaghan,
Lloyd von der Mehden, Marcia Anton, Mike Zischke, Nadin Sponamore, Nona Lucas,
Norman Owen, Norman Panting, Rich Herrero, Sara Penn, Tom Samarati.



I Love Our Club Because ...



Gertrude Reynaud & Phillip Trowbridge

What we love about our Club ...

TAKES ONE TO KNOW SOME

Phil Trowbridge is quick to say what he likes most about the Wild Oak Saddle Club. "Sitting at a table and meeting so many interesting people," says Phil, himself a most interesting person. He especially likes to spend time at the club with the remarkable Gertrude Reynaud.

WISE WOMEN

Visit with Gert even briefly and you're taken by how lovely, endearing and approachable she is and her quick sense of humor. It's interesting to know that her mother, Persana Deimling, was one of the exceptionally intelligent children followed by Stanford University's Dr. Lewis Terman, the father of education of the gifted. Gert grew up in Calistoga and graduated, as her mom and dad did, from Stanford University. Later Gert was a teacher, volunteered as a 4H Horsemanship Leader and with North Bay Regional Center advocating for people with disabilities.

GIVEN NAME: LEON

It was at Stanford that Gert met her future husband, Leon Reynaud Jr., who grew up in Santa Rosa. As his ancestors were French, they referred to him as "Mon petit coco" a term of endearment. He preferred the shorter version of Coke.

Coke, you may know, was an original member, along with his horse, Pepe, of the Sonoma County Trail Blazers, and then of our Wild Oak Saddle Club. Many years ago, Coke shared his love of horses with Gert and their children.

A LONG TIME ALOFT

Gert can't help but laugh to recall when she and good friend Gail Wood waited for a mare to foal. The two of them decided to stay with and watch over the expectant horse. So, they lugged sleeping bags and camping supplies up to the loft of the barn to watch over the birth. They stayed there for two weeks!

Gail's husband Sam Wood, the renowned car dealer and son of Babe Wood, put his foot down and told her she absolutely had to be home with her family that night to celebrate another birthday – her own! Gert will laugh when she tells the foal finally arrived the very night after Gail left.

CAUGHT HIS EYE

The good times and great stories flowed for Gert and Coke right up to his passing in 2002. It was a couple of years later that Phil Trowbridge stepped up to Gert at a large event of the 20/30 Club. He told her, “I have always admired you, and you're the best-looking girl here.” To which Gert replied, “Have you seen your ophthalmologist lately?”

PHIL AND COKE

It's a source of delight to Gert that long before she met Coke, he was close to Phil. As boys, Coke and Phil grew up in the same neighborhood, and they went to all the same schools including Fremont Elementary, Santa Rosa Junior High and Santa Rosa High. They went to the South Bay for college, then shared a flat near the University of San Francisco, where Phil earned a law degree.

Phil finds joy in sharing stories about Coke. The same with stories about Phil's father, W.C. “Bob” Trowbridge, well known locally for decades as the Russian River canoe king and a major force in Democratic Party politics.

A STARLET APPEARS

All through Phil's childhood he worked for his dad's Trowbridge Canoes and Mirabel Park Resort, famous for its popular dance floor. He lights up upon recalling a favorite memory from his teen years. One day a pretty girl with beautiful brown eyes rented a canoe with her father. Later, when she returned the canoe, the two of them chatted. She invited Phil to come along for dinner and dancing with some family members and friends in Guerneville.

She was Natalie Wood, the actress who'd spent part of her childhood in Sonoma County. Phil jumped at the chance to join her in Guerneville. Following the dinner Natalie asked if he could drive her and her mother back to Fitch Mountain where she was staying. He did so in his 46 Mercury convertible. Phil and Natalie Wood had become friends and remained so.

SUNDAY, SUNDAY

Gert and Phil will tell you they love every day that they're at the Wild Oak Saddle Club, none more than Sunday. Gert goes for the French toast at the Sunday brunch, savored always along with the fabulous view of the trees and the fond memories she keeps of Coke, and of the Trail Blazer rides that he cherished and that led to the creation of our remarkable club.

Phil enjoyed a career in Sonoma County that encompassed Redwood Empire Title Co., Santa Rosa Savings and Loan, Crocker Citizen Bank, and 42 years working with Art Condiotti building neighborhoods in Santa Rosa and Rohnert Park. He is a regular at the chatty WOSC Men's Group Sunday Brunch table.

It couldn't be clearer that Phil and Gert delight in the beauty of the club, the food, the hospitality – and, oh, the people.



LUNCH

Daily Soup – Cup \$6

Lori's Salad \$17

Baby greens and romaine lettuce tossed in white balsamic vinaigrette with house-made applewood smoked bacon, oven roasted turkey breast, grilled shrimp, avocado, grape tomatoes, and hard-boiled egg

Grilled Salmon Salad \$18

Grilled salmon, garden greens, capers, olives, cucumber, and pickled red onions with a creamy lemon-dill vinaigrette

Fiesta Salad \$17

Seasoned ground beef and pico de gallo, cucumbers, tomatoes, red radishes, romaine lettuce, cilantro lime vinaigrette, cheddar-jack cheese, sour cream, and tortilla crisps

Turkey Club \$17

Oven roasted turkey breast, house-made applewood smoked bacon, tomato, baby greens, avocado, and mayonnaise on artisan sourdough toast

Grilled Chicken Melt \$17

Grilled chicken breast, sauteed bell peppers, baby spinach, and cheddar cheese with avocado mayonnaise on grilled ciabatta roll

Blackened Shrimp Tacos \$17

Blackened shrimp, cabbage and cilantro slaw, chipotle cream, on local artisan tortillas

Grilled Reuben \$17

Corned beef brisket, thousand island dressing, house-made cabbage slaw, and Swiss cheese on grilled artisan marbled rye

Bacon Cheddar Burger \$17

Local ground beef patty with house-made applewood smoked bacon, cheddar cheese, lettuce, tomato, onion, and house-made dill pickles on a grilled bun

Impossible Burger (plant based) available +\$3

Sandwiches and tacos served with fries, garlic fries, side fruit or small garden salad

“Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish, or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions.”

Tightwad Tuesday

Clubhouse opens at 5:30pm

\$22.00 + tax per person

December 6th, 2022

Fried Chicken

Garden Salad

Baby Greens, Radishes, Shaved Squash,

Shaved Carrot, Lemon Vinaigrette

Roasted Vegetables

Mashed Potatoes and Gravy

Buttermilk Biscuits

Dessert:

German Chocolate Cake

December 27th, 2022

Beer Battered Fish and Chips

Garden Salad

Baby Greens, Butter Lettuce, Blackberries,

Shaved Radishes, and Strawberries, with

Champagne Vinaigrette

Cole Slaw

Potato Salad

Dessert:

Apple Crisp with Whipped Cream

December 13th, 2022

Al Pastor Tacos

Grilled Chicken Tacos

Taco Salad

Spanish Rice

Refried Beans

Chips, Salsa, Guacamole

Dessert:

Arroz con Leche

(Warm Rice Pudding)

January 3rd, 2023

Fried Chicken

Garden Salad

Baby Greens, Radishes, Strawberries, Shaved Carrot,

Lemon Vinaigrette

Buttermilk Biscuits

Roasted Vegetables

Mashed Potatoes and Gravy

Dessert:

Red Velvet Cake

December 20th, 2022

Beef, Italian Sausage, and

Three Cheese Lasagna

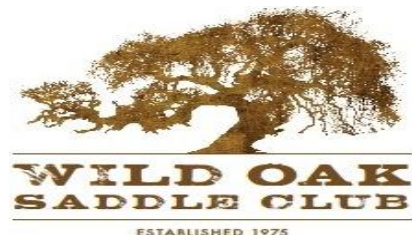
Caesar Salad

Roasted Vegetables

Garlic Bread

Dessert:

Salted Caramel Cheesecake



Friday Night Dinner

Clubhouse opens 5:30pm

Dinner 6:45pm

\$50.00 + tax per person with alcohol

\$40.00 + tax per person without alcohol

December 2nd, 2022

Farm to Fork

Herb Crusted Leg of Lamb

Creamy Polenta, Caramelized Pearl Onion Jus

Yellow Rockfish

Lemon Caper Cream Sauce

Blood Orange Salad

Lollo Rosso, Baby Kale, Frisee, Wild Arugula, Laura
Chanel Goat Cheese, Sliced Almonds, Citrus-
Champagne Vinaigrette

Sautéed Broccoli Spigarello and Roasted
Romanesco

Dessert:

Assorted Mini's

\$70.00 + tax per person with alcohol

\$60.00 + tax per person without alcohol

December 9th, 2022

Mixed Grill Night

Hand Carved Grilled Steaks, Chicken,
Grilled Fish, and Sausages

Mini Wedge Salad

Roasted Winter Root Vegetables

Potato Au Gratin

Dessert:

Kozlowski Farm's Pie with
Vanilla Bean Ice Cream

December 16th, 2022

Prime Rib Night Family Style Dinner

Roasted Prime Rib of Beef, *au jus*

Petrale Sole with Butter Braised Leeks

Roasted Beet Salad

Arugula, Frisee, Mache, Cara Cara Oranges, Goat
Cheese, Pistachios with a Honey-Dijon Vinaigrette

Caramelized Onion & Sour Cream Mashed Potatoes

Roasted Brussels Sprouts and
Heirloom Baby Carrots with Sautéed Kale

Dessert:

Gingerbread Cake

January 6th, 2023

Family Style Dinner

Fettuccini with Shrimp, Clams, and
Mussels in a Garlic Butter
and Wine Sauce

Stuffed Sonoma County Chicken Breast
Ricotta Cheese, Roasted Bell Peppers, Spinach

Winter Citrus Salad

Baby Greens, Cara Cara Oranges, Blood Oranges,
Mandarins, Avocado, and Mint-Champagne Vinaigrette

Braised Turnips and Roasted Broccolini
with Sautéed Spinach

Dessert:

Lemon Crème Brulee

WOSC Financial Report

The Club's CPA who oversees our accounting, Kathie Leader, was previously Director of Finance for Luther Burbank Center for the Arts. She has worked for WOSC for nearly a decade.

Hello, my name is Kathie Leader, and I am the accountant who oversees your club accounting (which is performed by three of us in the office) and prepares your financial statements.

Wild Oak Saddle Club holds an IRS exempt status as a 501(c)(7) Social club. This status requires that we uphold certain requirements to maintain our tax exempt status. One of those requirements is that the club must be primarily supported by membership fees, dues and assessments, however the club may supplement its income from non-membership sources. In order to meet the high costs of maintaining our aging facility, our club supplements its income with a limited number of non-member events. **The IRS code allows us to earn no more than 15% of our revenues from non-member use of the facility. We monitor this requirement very closely and report our current percent of use to the board and the membership in our monthly financials.**

At the last board meeting, I provided an analysis to clarify the accounting for your facility improvement and maintenance expenditures along with how your annual assessment, member and other events, and Derby Day revenues support these expenditures as follows:

The club expends an average of \$210,000 in facility maintenance and upgrades each year (averaged over the last 8 years). This expense is supported by revenues also averaged over the last 8 years of (1) \$67,300 in annual assessments, (2) \$83,400 in Derby Day contributions and (3) \$60,400 in member and other event revenue (tracked very closely to ensure we are within IRS requirements). **Without these revenue sources, the club would have to significantly raise membership dues and assessments.**

The board has strived to maintain at least \$375,000 in cash reserves to allow for payment of future facility expenditures. At the beginning of 2022 we had a cash balance of \$507,975 of which we spent \$378,567 on capitalized facility costs (any costs under \$2,500 are expensed on our P&L - the total facility costs as of September 30, 2022 are \$437,846). As you know, we replaced the deck this year - accounting for a significant amount of this year's expenditures. The cash balance as of September 30, 2022 of \$374,446 is slightly below our board designated reserve.

Lori has copies of this analysis if you would like to see it.

Also, there will be another report provided for the club's Annual Meeting in January.