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'Captain's Comeback

Eaton Fire
evacuation
can't stop
this duo

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Amy McCool photo

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Equestrian Real Estate: New ranches hitting market! / **Page 28**

focus on OPEN SHOWS

Olivia Chrisman Smith and Really Sudden earn the High Point Horse title and a place on the Emily Jungers - Mehl Lawson Perpetual Trophy.



Amy McCool photo

JACK & LINDA BAKER REINING FINALS



CHAMPION

Jeanne Rosenberg / Some Kind of Smart

RESERVE CHAMPION

Marilyn Scheffers / Gun O Mite

ROOKIE CHAMPION

Katrina Larsen / Dazzle N Chrome

REINING FINALISTS:

- 1st Jeanne Rosenberg / Some Kind of Smart
- 2nd Marilyn Scheffers / Gun O Mite
- 3rd Rebecca Murray / Gunjacked
- 4th Katrina Larsen / Dazzle N Chrome
- 5th Linda Dalton / Platinum Nic
- 6th Rebecca Murray / Gunspook
- 7th Diane Snodgrass / SIJ Custom Style
- 8th Talia Mannello / Most Wanted
- 9th Lee Scheffers / Shine RC Shine
- 10th Sean Carney / Gimme One Nite

A true *Classic*

Postponed twice, Pink Classic refreshes after fires

SPECIAL TO THE HORSETRADER

BURBANK — Good things are worth the wait, and the Pink Classic Horse Show brought the Los Angeles Equestrian Center to life Feb. 6-9 after a pair of postponements. After the venerable fall event was postponed because of weather to January 9-12, the tragic fires of Los Angeles forced another date change to the first weekend in February.

The Pink Classic hosted the Pacific Coast Horse Show Association Trail Classic and the Jack and Linda Baker Reining Finals. Both classes were open to all PCHA youth and amateur members.

Two saddle-winners in

the JLB Reining Finals came aboard evacuated horses who had very brief warm-up windows before the show. Jeanne Rosenberg of Topanga Canyon and her Some Kind Of Smart were the Reining Champions, and Katrina Larsen of San Gabriel aboard Sharon Gray's Dazzle N Chrome was the Reining Rookie Champions. (See sidebar articles, next page). The Reining Reserve Champion was Marilyn Scheffers on Gun O Mite.

In the PCHA Trail Classic, Tammy Moniot took Break Records Redick to the Trail Championship, and Gayle Carline was Trail Reserve Champion.

Show officials extended appreciation to the sponsors of the special classes, noting that sponsor donations of money, tack and products allow the show to give away something to every participant in the class. Appreciation was also extended to the PCHA Western Board members and chairman of these two classes, Renee Baker (Trail) and Noopy Rodriguez (Reining) for their hard work, as well as to PCHA Board Member Poncie Hermann, Manager of Track One Events, which hosted these two special classes.

MORE ONLINE:
<https://bit.ly/5CPHA>

PACIFIC COAST HORSE SHOW ASSN. TRAIL CLASSIC

CHAMPION

Tammy Moniot / Break Records Redick

RESERVE CHAMPION

Gayle Carline / All Hats Off

ROOKIE CHAMPION

Katrina Larsen / Dazzle N Chrome

TRIAL FINALISTS:

- 1st Tammy Moniot / Break Records Redick
- 2nd Gayle Carline / All Hats Off
- 3rd Barbara Klarich / Only Zips Invited
- 4th Tammy Moniot / My Time Only
- 5th Taylor Hinely / A Cool Beast
- 6th Debbie Bartman / EAF Hes Cabable
- 7th Olivia Chrisman Smith / Really Sudden
- 8th Debbie Bartman / I Am taking My Time

focus on OPEN SHOWS



Jeanne Rosenberg and her Some Kind of Smart finish atop the Jack and Linda Baker Reining Classic.

Amy McCool photo

Jeanne Rosenberg and 'Chewy' relax, take reining title

BY HORSETRADER STAFF

BURBANK — Horses have always been part of Jeanne Rosenberg's forty-some years at her Topanga Canyon ranch. Wildfires have been, too.

So, when Jeanne saw smoke about 10:30 a.m. on Jan. 7 with strong winds, it was time to

evacuate the horses.

"We've been through several fires up here," says Jeanne, who can recall 10 or so blazes of varying intensity over the years. "We got the horses out, but then we stayed. It's much easier for us to protect the property if the horses are not

CONTINUED ON, PAGE 18

From fire to trophy saddle, Rookie Champ met challenges

FROM HORSETRADER STAFF REPORTS

BURBANK — Katrina Larsen and Dazzle N Chrome have never competed in a trail trials class, but they faced intense obstacles and challenges on their course to a reining title.

Perhaps the biggest one came when they were

apart, not connected, when a policeman stood in front of the car she was

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focus on OPEN SHOWS

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here. If the smoke is bad or if people can't get in with hay and shavings, it can be really horrible.

"To get them out quickly is usually a pretty good idea."

One horse she sent to L.A. Pierce College that morning was Some Kind of Smart (Smart Like Juice x Some Kind Of Dun It), her 13-year old reining partner purchased as a 4-year old from Jesse Asmussen. "Chewy", as she calls the gelding, would stay at the evacuation center for weeks before returning home. That didn't leave a lot of prep time, or what she calls "home-schooling", for the Jack and Linda Baker Reining Final in early February.

As it turned out, the short prep time didn't matter. The duo won the Reining Classic, finishing ahead of Reserve Champion Marilyn Scheffers on Gun O Mite (Dun It Gotta Gun x Kizis Pine O Mite). It was Jeanne's first win atop the Reining Classic after several

reserve championships.

"When Chewy returned home, he had been standing around, so we couldn't jump straight into practicing maneuvers," she says. "We needed to get his muscles back a little bit, so there wasn't a lot of a lot of time to get ready."

"I think that left me less nervous than usual," she adds. "It was helpful — and kind of another learning experience for me. Chewy's very willing and very athletic, so I find if I can stay out of his way a lot, that's good."

The Pink Show was a relief from January's fire episode.

"It was a great distraction after what we had all just experienced. It relaxed me," she says. "I mean, there was so much at stake during the fires that somehow it made showing just a fun experience. It was great to see everyone. To be out there, to be not thinking about life and death moments."

She voiced appreciation for

community support during the disaster, from the L.A. Pierce evacuation team to her Topanga Canyon neighbors and also the horse show community.

"I saw in Topanga, with the people who stayed with the food giveaways and the stuff giveaways. Did you need a toothbrush? Did you need baby wipes? A flashlight? I mean, people bringing all these things in, and everyone was so kind and welcoming to each other."

"And that's the feeling, too, I found with the horse show people — they were so kind and so glad to reach out to each other — to be in contact and say, 'whew, we made it!'"

And, felt fortunate.

"I feel incredibly lucky. My heart goes out to all the people who suffered so much more," she says.


MORE ONLINE:

<https://bit.ly/5chewywins>



Amy McCool photo

Jeanne Rosenberg, her husband Max Trumppower with Some Kind of Smart.


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focus on OPEN SHOWS

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in with her grandparents, telling the teen-ager, “no...you cannot go in there.”

It was about 6:45 p.m., a half-hour after the Eaton Fire ignited like a blowtorch on Jan. 7. Fifteen minutes earlier, Katrina had been doing schoolwork at her grandparents when she learned from a barn mate of a fire at their barn, Eaton Dam Stables.

“We jumped in the car and drove up there,” says Katrina. Flames already had jumped the road.

“The police were telling us to turn around because the people in there and the horses in there were not going to make it,” she says. “We didn’t want to leave because those are our horses and our people and our home.”

“The barn is your second home because we spend so much time there,” she adds.

Katrina and her grandparents, Mark and Pam Larsen,

used an alternative route to the barn, dodging embers and branches that occasionally

struck the car. Having negotiated the first obstacle — getting to the barn — they went to work helping stable owner Sharon Gray evacuate 39 horses. All of them made it to the Los Angeles Equestrian Center, where most still remain temporarily alongside other animals evacuated during the worst L.A. wildfires in history.

Katrina says Dazzle N Chrome, whose barn name is “Captain”, recovered from the episode in measured steps that assured his lungs were clear of any smoke damage. At first, daily hand-walking was the limit, then some lunging. It was weeks before she would ride Captain again.

“He did have a little bit of a cough for about a week after the fire, and he recovered well

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Katrina Larsen loads “Captain” into a trailer during the Jan. 7 evacuation in the Eaton Fire.



The fire aftermath at Sharon Gray's Eaton Dam Stables.



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Tammy Moniot and Break Record Redick won the PCHA Trail Classic Championship, and also the Cosa Bill Bailey Memorial Trophy as High Scoring Gelding.



Amy McCool photo

CONTINUED FROM, PAGE 19
after his cough went away,” she says. “Our tack room survived the fire, so I was able to eventually get my saddle. I rode him really lightly — no maneuvers — for two or three weeks after the fire. We started ramping things up. I just circled him a lot and kept him moving with some turns. After about three weeks I started doing some stops.

“He really likes that dirt in the Equidome,” she adds. “He liked having that big arena, too — it was really great.”

In that arena Feb. 8 — almost a month to the day from that fiery night at Eaton Dam Stables — the duo won the Jack and Linda Baker Reining Classic Rookie Championship.

Did the trial by fire have an impact?

“Honestly, it was pretty traumatizing,” she admits. “Being there was traumatic. And I did not know where Captain was going. I put him on the trailer with Sharon’s pregnant mare because they were my priority at the time. I knew they were

going somewhere, but I didn’t know where they were going.”

Faith is important to Katrina and her family, and they credit God’s hand for her courage, her commitment and any accomplishments in her wake.

“I remember thinking I didn’t know if Captain was going to be the same after this — after being traumatized, after being in all that smoke and the fire. And physically, too. After being at L.A. Equestrian Center for a couple days, it was obvious he was fine. At least that’s what my mind was telling me about him. I still didn’t know if he was going to be the same horse.”

When it came time to show, Captain was the best version of himself. The duo stayed connected in their best run ever, which may have been their last.

Katrina, a 15-year-old who self-supports her horse activities, lost her employment at the now-decimated Eaton Dam Stables where she worked and gave lessons. Her immediate course is unclear.

“I kind of knew this would be the last one, and so I really

wanted to do well,” she says. “I pushed myself because I wanted to end on a good note with him.”

She also was motivated to do well for her support team — Sharon, her trainer June Tabor in Solvang, her supportive grandparents and parents, and

many talents,” Ellen says. “It just shows that when she was displaced from the fires — she had been saving up for a saddle by cleaning other ladies’ stalls and doing lessons and things like that — and to have the barn burn down, she lost any possibility of putting any money away for the saddle. But through her perseverance and the talents God gave her, she was able to win a saddle. It came full circle.”

Katrina says the saddle is awesome, but that wasn’t why she rode.

“I wanted to do well for our barn and for Eaton Dam,” she says. “We worked hard, and I wanted to show June’s hard work she put into us, and Sharon’s, too. I am showing Sharon’s horse, and I want her horse to look good. I think that was my mindset going into it. I wanted to do well for our barn and for my family — for Captain, too.

“I’ve worked hard, and Captain’s worked really hard for me to be able to perform,” she adds. “I think that pushed me to want to do well. I knew that we have it, and we had worked really hard.

“Obviously, we’re not able to buy just a super fancy horse to go win shows on,” she adds. “So, we just take what we have and we make it work. We critique where we can and we go show and have fun and learn from it. It’s not all about the winning — but obviously it’s a bonus!”

“I didn’t know if Captain was going to be the same after this.”

— Katrina Larsen

other contributors along her equestrian journey that began atop a rental string horse in Griffith Park when she was age 4.

“I remember riding around that same facility with Katrina when she was four years old — and the way her eyes lit up to be on such a majestic animal,” says her dad, Nic. “She has been riding ever since. Eleven of her 15 years have been riding horses. It has been such a blessing — just amazing.”

The family lost Katrina’s mother, Mu, to cancer two years ago. Nic remarried, and Katrina’s stepmother, Ellen, is another enthusiastic member of family support.

“God has blessed her with



Katrina Larsen, along with her parents and grandparents, enjoy the championship moment with “Captain.”

MORE ONLINE:
<https://bit.ly/5captainreins>