

PUBLISHED WHENEVER A LITTLE CORRAL DUST NEEDS KICKIN' AROUND

Riders *Of The* Alisal

SPRING 2019



Your Guide to
SPRINGTIME
at the RANCH

SUNNY DAYS, STARRY NIGHTS AND SO MUCH MORE!

The mild spring days at the Ranch offer the perfect canvas for creating a picture perfect vacation. If staying active and polishing your athletic skills are on your to-do list, we offer great **PGA Pro guided Golf Clinics** and lessons, **private tennis instruction**, fly fishing lessons and even some handy tips for getting the hang of **disc golf**. If you want to nourish your inner foodie, then we can arrange a **VIP wine tour** where our Bellman will take you to some of the best local vineyards for some memorable tastings and a gourmet picnic lunch.

If you have youngsters with you, our **Kiddie Korral program** (offered 5:30-8:30 Saturdays) features a variety of activities, from arts and crafts, cooperative games, stories and playtime and even includes dinner. During the week young buckaroos can try their hand at candle making, slime mixing and tie dyeing t-shirts (we ask that an adult accompany children under the age of eight).

Nature lovers have plenty to see and do at the Ranch. Whether it's getting on a bike for a **guided road tour** of

the countryside, joining our naturalist to discover the vibrant native **flora and fauna**, or simply taking out a canoe for a lazy ride on our **private lake**, the spring is a great time to explore the Ranch.

Once the sun goes down the fun doesn't stop. We invite you to check out our recently completed fire pit where our **Campfire and Cocktails** program will be heating up the night. **Gourmet s'mores** and warmed adult beverages await. We also offer family friendly country dancing and movies

on select evenings. Other evening favorites are our **Owl Prowl** and our **Stellar Stargazing**. Our nature guides can help you search out elusive nighttime wildlife, or locate your favorite shimmering constellation in the wide-open sky of the Ranch.



[View Spring Activity Guide](#) ↗



BBQ BOOTCAMP: TOP CHEFS ADD SIZZLE AT THE RANCH



For anyone hungry for the secrets to great grilling, the next Alisal BBQ Bootcamp, offered at the Ranch (May 2019), is guaranteed to be a taste adventure. This already popular vacation package, is being kicked up a notch with the addition of superstar chefs **Burt Bakman**, **Paula Disbrowe** and **Valerie Gordon**. The three visiting chefs will be joining the Ranch's own Executive Chef, Anthony Endy, as they serve up grilled feasts and reveal the tips and tricks for creating great BBQ.

In the grand tradition of the Wild West, the Alisal has for decades treated grilling as a fine art, and with the help of our guest grill masters, we are mighty excited to help you take your grilling skills to the next level.

As way of introduction to this all-star team of "pit pros", here is a little background on the featured chefs.



First, there is pitmaster **Burt Bakman**, a Los Angeles based chef, legendary for hosting BBQ pop-ups and an advocate for low-and-slow method of smoking meat. Bakman works his magic with Big Bertha, his trusted smoker, which fuels his passion for the art of Texas-style BBQ. Next we offer you the best-selling, award-winning cookbook author, former restaurant manager, and Austin-based chef **Paula Disbrowe**. Paula recently penned the barbecue cookbook, **"Thank You For Smoking"**, which provides



insight into the barbecue world, along with expert hints for grilling success. Finally, **Valerie Gordon** is one of Los Angeles's top chocolatiers and the author of the cookbook *Sweet* (a James Beard Award Finalist). She will serve as the "Sweets" specialist at BBQ Bootcamp. Valerie will be demonstrating a host of sensational grilled desserts.



The BBQ Bootcamp morning sessions will cover all the aspects of BBQ, from the best way to start a fire to what to do with spice rubs; afternoons are free for horseback riding, golf or a visit to the spa; and evenings give you a chance to interact with local guest chefs and winemakers who will be on hand to create feasts designed to further fire-up your love of all things barbeque.

Add to all the grilling, and ranch activities, some complimentary wine tastings at nearby wineries and tasteful BBQ Bootcamp mementos, and you have all the fixin's for an unforgettable getaway. If you're interested in participating, we suggest you sign up soon, because spaces will go faster than a happy pup's tail.

TO BOOK THIS PACKAGE:
Call (800) 425-4725



SPRING MENU IS BURSTING WITH FRESH FLAVORS



The countryside around the Alisal is filled bountiful farms, and vineyards alive with Spring freshness. It's only natural that at this time of year, the emphasis of **Executive Chef Anthony Endy's** up-coming menus, is on bright, fresh, lively flavors. Sourcing the best local produce, and delicacies from the Ranch's own garden, look for plenty of great vegan and vegetarian dishes, as well as delicious grilled seafood and steaks.



SPRING FEAST

A perfect example of the kitchen's spring specialties is the Featured Dish: **Grilled Wild Salmon with a Sweet Corn and Avocado Salad** topped with a homemade Green Goddess dressing. Light, healthy and so delicious, the chef recommends pairing this tasty meal with a crisp, cold **Draughtsman Pilsner**. We guarantee once you've gotten a gander at what the chef has waiting for you each evening you'll be grinning wider than a jack-o-lantern at Halloween.

[More About Dining at the Alisal](#) ➔



At the
BARN

More Fun For Kids ➔

BIRDS AND BEES AREN'T THE ONLY WILDLIFE EXCITED FOR SPRING

Our barnyard is full of excited critters waiting to kick up their heels, show you the sights and warm your heart. Out in the stables, our friendly team of horses has a variety of new rides to take you on. During our month-long April Spring Break, for the first time ever, we are offering a lunch ride to the Adobe for a delicious **Santa Maria style BBQ Lunch**. For

those of you who like a personalized riding experience, we suggest you try either a private one-hour, or two-hour ride, where our wranglers will take you on an exclusive tour of our fabulous trails. If the traditional group ride is more your style, then every afternoon we saddle-up and head out, in groups perfectly suited to your riding ability. If you have

a hankerin' to nourish your inner cowboy we also offer a twice a week roping class and a **Cowpokes and Ponies class** where you will learn all about horses and yourself.

For youngin's, or anyone else who loves furry animals, friendly birds and exotic reptiles the barnyard is alive with fun activities for all ages.

You can feed our adorable alpacas, get to know our giant tortoise, collect eggs from our flock of colorful chickens, or groom our darling mini horses. Of course there is much more to do and see at the barn and barnyard so it's best to check out the **Spring Events Guide** either online or in-room and book your activities as soon as possible.



FEATURED WRANGLER – CAITI PRICE

If you haven't met Wrangler Caiti yet, consider this here article, your formal introduction. Friendly, and knowledgeable, Caiti has called the Alisal home for just about a year. In that short time she has made plenty of friends, doled out lots of helpful horse riding tips and helped guests

explore the many exciting trails that lace through the Ranch's 10,000 acres of stunning scenery.

Before saddling up with the Alisal, Caiti was a Southern California girl, growing up and working in the San Diego Area. Caiti's life-long love

of horses began with her first riding lessons at age six. By age ten she had her very own horse and was competing in barrel races and even a bit of show jumping. With her long equestrian background and her general love of animals, Caiti worked with horses on small San Diego ranches and even tried her hand as a dog groomer.

Not long ago, Caiti decided to see more of the world and when an opening at the Alisal came to her attention she jumped at the opportunity.

"I came to the Alisal and was blown away by the beautiful location and the truly friendly atmosphere that was here," says Caiti. Since starting, she has loved getting out with guests and exploring the Ranch's back country. One of her favorite memories, was taking an experienced couple out on a private ride. While exploring the Bobcat Trail they came across a little known side trail. Caiti and the couple decided to see where it led. The ride was a real adventure. In all the years of coming to the Ranch, the couple had never been on this particular trail and the sense of real exploration had an old West feel that they and

Caiti won't soon forget.

Join us in welcoming Caiti to the Alisal family and give her a "big howdy!" She will be happy to show

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you the ropes and help you get the most out of your Alisal experience.



[View Horseback Rides & Programs](#)

HORSE TALES



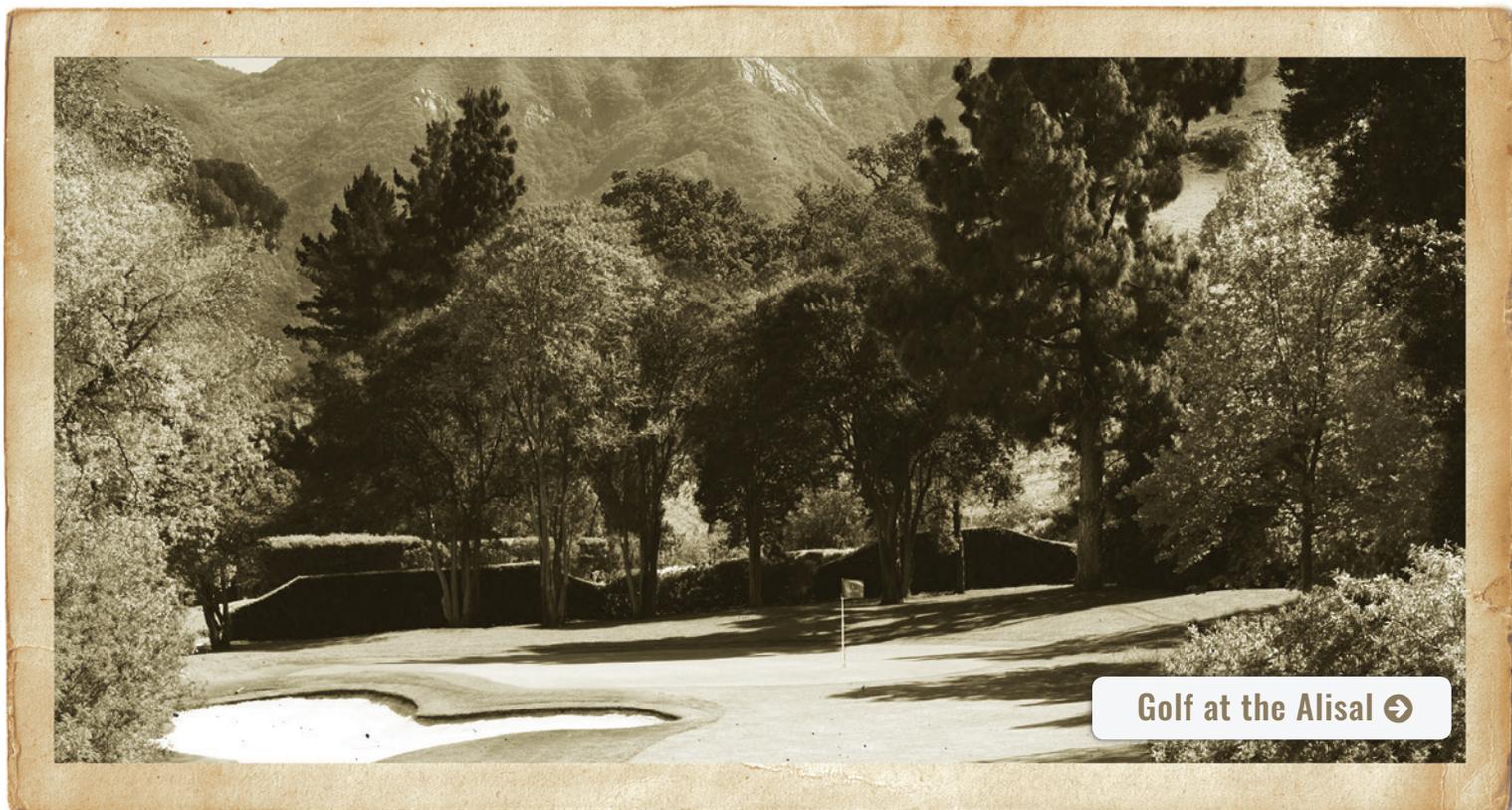
This month's featured horse

- Name:** Charger
- Breed:** Quarter Horse
- Color:** Bay
- Age:** 10 years old

His Horse Tale: Charger is an amiable ten-year-old bay gelding who arrived at the Alisal early this last November from Billings, Montana. His soft dark eyes and quiet demeanor offset the prominence of his great stature of 16.3 hands, earning him the nickname of gentle giant. He has quickly become a favorite of those who have had the opportunity to join him on the trails. Within just a few weeks of arriving at the ranch, Charger was a part of the Alisal Barn's inaugural ride in the traditional Solvang Julefest Parade, where they won the award for Best Equestrian Entry! Don't miss the chance to meet this sweet boy and his friends at the barn during your stay at the Alisal!



[Meet Our Previous Featured Horse](#)



HISTORY IN THE MAKING – ALISAL RANCH COURSE



In 1946 when the Jackson Family opened the Alisal Guest Ranch and Resort to guests, it was their dream, to one day have a championship golf course be part of the Ranch experience. Nine years later with the help of newly hired **Golf Pro Bill Train**, and legendary course designer **Billy Bell**, the private Ranch

Course was ready for play. Known for its narrow fairways, and scenic mountain views, the course has been popular with Ranch guests and members from Day One. For serious golfers looking to make their mark on the course's record book, be aware the original course record was 65 and the modern course record is 63.

Famous professional golfers such as **Al Geiberger** have been members, and the course has hosted many SCPGA and SCGA golf tournaments as well as a variety of successful

charity events. One of the most popular charity events on the course has been Hole-In-One Contests held on the Par 3, 208-yard ninth hole. A mighty challenge for any player, over the years only 10 lucky and skilled golfers have been able to capture the prize and drive away in a new luxury automobile. Whether you're a novice looking for private lessons and some casual play, or a seasoned duffer looking for a fun challenge, the Ranch Course and Head Pro, **Dave Hartley**, welcome you to be part of Alisal's rich golf history.

FEATURED HOLE

Course: The Ranch Course

Hole: #5

Yardage: 120-160 Yards

When it comes to enjoying a great view while golfing, nothing tops hole #5 on the private Ranch Course. Located the farthest point away from the starting tee, this hole is perched on a hill that provides a stunning view of the city of Solvang and the Santa Ynez River. Depending on which tees you play from, the hole is between 120-160 yards downhill. This short par 3 plays over the Alisal Creek and can be unforgiving if you go long. For those who want to snap a selfie of your Ranch Course adventure, this scenic hole provides a natural photo spot. So saddle up the cart, bring a golf buddy and say "Cheese!"



FROM ALISAL PEE-WEE TENNIS TO PRO TOURNAMENTS



have tennis in his blood. Guests to the Alisal's tennis center a couple decades ago might have noticed young Miles swatting balls around his crib in the pro shop. As years went by, Miles participated in the **Alisal's Pee-Wee Tennis Clinics** and later in the Summer High School Program. Miles worked hard, and with his natural abilities, his tennis game just kept getting better. He was undefeated as a tennis player at Santa Ynez High School, then attended Santa Barbara City College for a year before being recruited to UC Santa Barbara's highly ranked tennis program. As a UCSB Gaucho, Miles was part of the first Gaucho doubles teams in history to win the Southern California Intercollegiate Championships. After graduating UCSB, Miles started playing professional tournaments

and won doubles in the Avila Bay Classic, and the Southern California Open Sectionals. Most recently, in 2018 Miles took his doubles skills into the international arena and came back with winners trophies from the prestigious **ITF Kuwait tournament**.

If you would like to arrange a tennis lesson or participate in a clinic, stop by the Alisal pro shop and the tennis pros will help you take your game to the next level.

On the Courts ↻

Miles is slated to soon be inducted in the Santa Ynez High School Hall of Fame, an honor he is deeply grateful to receive. Even with his success, guests to the Alisal might still catch Miles hitting on the courts, just like some of the other notable pros like **Rod Laver** and **Jimmy Connors** that over the years have made the Alisal their home court.



For almost 40 years the Alisal Tennis Director **Walt Seemann**, has been teaching Ranch guests and local athletes how to play and excel on the court. His wife, Lisa, was also a teaching pro at the Ranch for a number of years. So it may come as no surprise that their son, Miles would

TRY A SIDE OF PICKLE

If you have never tried the recreation sensation of Pickleball, then your getaway to the Alisal might be the perfect opportunity to learn the basics and have some fun. The Ranch now offers **two Pickleball courts** at our tennis complex. Our PPR certified Pickleball instructor, **Chris DeVaux**, is ready to get you playing in no time with a group or private lesson. Our director of tennis, Walt Seemann, is also available for instruction. If you already are a fan of the sport but didn't bring your equipment, no

worries. We have paddles and balls to rent or purchase in the pro shop. The sport was originally developed by a group of dads living in Washington state in the 1960s who had a passel of bored kids on their hands during their summer break. A Pickleball court is the size of a badminton doubles court, with a tennis style net. The game is played using a hard paddle (between the size of a tennis racquet and a ping pong paddle) and a ball that looks much like a

perforated plastic wiffle ball and can be more relaxed or fast paced depending on the skill level of the players. According to DeVaux, "I can teach most folks to play in an hour's time: the rules, scoring, basic strokes and strategy... and even have them playing their first game. It is not as physically demanding as tennis, and it's a lot of fun!" So, if you have a hankerin' for a taste of "Pickle", mosey over to the tennis pro shop or make a reservation for a court at the front desk.



SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

Everyone has their own unique story tell about their experience at the Ranch. If you want to share your favorite story or photos please send 'em our way, we can't get enough of them! Who knows, maybe you'll be in the next issue of *The Riders of the Alisal*.

Send stories and photos to: Marketing@Alisal.com

Or just ping us on Social.    