

**Friends of Westwind, Inc.  
Annual Report for 2005**

**President's Report by Sharon O'Malley**

As you will probably agree, we have concluded a most interesting year. We had challenges that have served to unite and strengthen us in our resolve to create a more cohesive relationship with the town council and staff, to encourage more resident participation in activities at the barn, and to better focus on our lease agreement, by-laws, and code of ethics and conduct for both the board and membership. I am proud of our membership, town council and community for their positive help with plans to improve the barn.

The Town Council is in the first phase of developing a long term plan for renovating the barn and now has structural engineers assessing the condition of the barn. An ad hoc committee will be formed to work on this plan.

The Parks and Recreation Department through the support of the Town Council is developing a Year Round Riding Program that would not have been possible without Jane Kawasaki's tireless work promoting and developing the program and purchasing very appropriate horses for beginner riders. Thank you to Jane and the Parks and Recreation Committee. We welcome the program.

I would like to commend the Supporters of Westwind Community Barn for two very successful fundraising years. You have created a unique and enjoyable Derby Day event. The Derby Day party would not be possible without the generosity of the Mendez family who host the event at their beautiful location in the Los Altos Hills. This year the Kentucky Derby Day fundraiser will be held at the Mendez location again on the first weekend of May... Be there or be square!! The Supporters group, in conjunction with the Town, has already replaced the big barn doors and will be working with the Town ad hoc committee and the Friends of Westwind to decide future improvements.

Thanks to our Facilities Director, Harry Bahlman, the Barn Manager, Melissa Stortz, and the approval of the board of directors, we have been able to complete projects that include replacing all the windows and window frames in all of the stalls, replacing three stall Dutch doors, replacing the gutters and improving the drainage. The board also approved and completed, through the work of the Hill family, remodeling of the staff kitchen and improvements to staff quarters. Hitch racks and rubber mats were replaced and a new upper arena gate was installed.

Our 28th annual Hoedown fundraiser was a big success. Thanks to all the volunteers who provided the planning, donations, hard work and creativity. Thanks also to the Barn Manager, Melissa Stortz and staff for all their hours of preparation.

Our Personnel Director, Harry Bahlman and his committee have recently completed interviewing candidates for a new barn manager. They should be selecting a candidate soon.

Thank you all for proving throughout this year how dear you hold this unique facility and how hard you strive to preserve it.