

# Xenophon Goes Out to Play, with Friends

By Lee Borrowman



Michael Muir loads a wheelchair

Photo by John Fazel

Family and friends of Orinda's Xenophon Therapeutic Riding Center ([www.xenophontrc.org](http://www.xenophontrc.org)) enjoyed their annual barbeque at the San Pablo Reservoir on Sunday, August 26. This year, they were joined by special guests Michael Muir and Access Adventure ([www.access-adventure.org](http://www.access-adventure.org)), who provided rides in a large carriage pulled by their Percherons, Ruby and Reba. The two non-profit organizations have much in common, both using very special horses to offer unique and valuable services to the disabled.

Xenophon offers a program of therapeutic horseback riding and related activities to children with disabilities such as autism and cerebral palsy.

Through riding and interacting with Xenophon's gentle horses, these children conquer fears, build confidence, coordination and develop physical mental and social skills.

Access Adventure provides open space recreation and wilderness access for people living with the challenges of disability. Their horse-drawn carriage is equipped with a solar powered battery operated lift that can accommodate up to 500 pounds. "We give people who can't ride a horse the chance to be close to them," said founder Muir, who was there to show support for Xenophon. Muir said of the event, "It was about having a good time with family and friends!"

Read our previous article about Xenophon on-line at:  
<http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue0109/pdf/HORSESWITHHEARTORINDASGENTLEHEROES.pdf>



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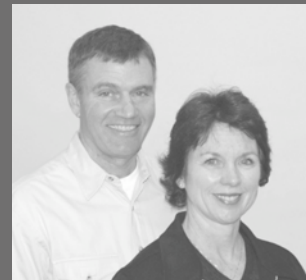
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