

# Volunteers of the year honored

FOR THE VALLEY NEWS

## Charlotte Bredahl-Baker

For her years of volunteer work with youth, particularly through her love of horses, Charlotte Bredahl-Baker has been recognized by the Valley Foundation as a Volunteer of the Year for 2006.

Bredahl-Baker moved to the Valley in 1990 as a professional dressage trainer and real estate agent. In 1990-1992 she received grants from the United States Olympic Committee to train and compete throughout Europe. She is probably most well known for riding on the US Olympic bronze medal winning equestrian team in Barcelona in 1992.

Throughout her life, she has volunteered with many youth organizations. Over the past five years Bredahl-Baker volunteered her time as Team Leader for the top 12 junior riders at their National Championship.

In 2000, Bredahl-Baker and husband Joel became foster parents for the first time and eventually became permanent guardians for son Zach. Later that year Bredahl-Baker began mentoring three children through the Presbyterian Mentoring Program. She continues to mentor the same three children regularly. The couple also temporarily took in a second foster child in 2003.

Early in 2006, Bredahl-Baker went to Compton to check out a riding program for the inner city kids. She thought it was a great program and has been involved ever since.

As many as 15 youth visit her ranch in Buellton for riding lessons and demonstrations. Over the summer Bredahl-Baker and her husband Joel host several of the kids at the ranch for a week or



Charlotte Bredahl-Baker, left, uses her love of horses to help yc several different gorups since moving to the Valley (Photo by Gler

more at a time.

The community is invited to come to the Valley Foundation Banquet on March 24 and honor the award-winning volunteers who help make the Santa Ynez Valley what it is. In partnership with the Santa Ynez Valley News, the awards banquet will be held at the Santa Ynez Valley Marriott in Buellton. A reception at 5:30 p.m. will be followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person. For information and tickets contact The Valley Foundation at 688-2991 or e-mail [syvf@verizon.net](mailto:syvf@verizon.net).

# The Buellton Buzz

By Kyle Abello

## THE STARS OF BUELLTON

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Buellton Chamber of Commerce Oscar Night Gala brought out the Valley's stars for an evening of delicious food and entertainment marking the 79<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards in Hollywood. While three huge screens beamed the elegance of the actual awards ceremony into the banquet hall at the Santa Ynez Valley Marriott, the guests in attendance were entertained by emcee Ed Joyce, former CBS executive, and his co-host, Chamber Board member Tish Beltrenena. During his monologue, Joyce paid tribute to Cindy Norlin, the founder of the Oscar Night event, and regaled those present with tales from



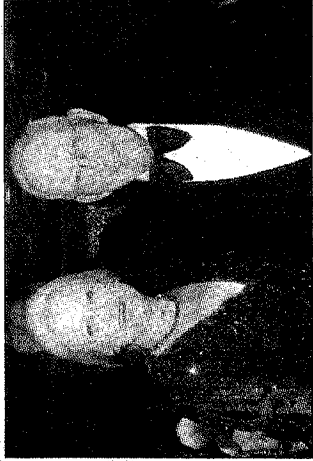
Glamour Girls: from left Buellton Mayor Diane Whitehair, Solvang Chamber President Linda Johansen, and Buellton Councilmember Victoria Pointer



Charlotte's Web; Diners at the JB Polo Table l-r Mitch Voss, Suzanne Voss, Joel Baker, Charlotte Bredahl-Baker.



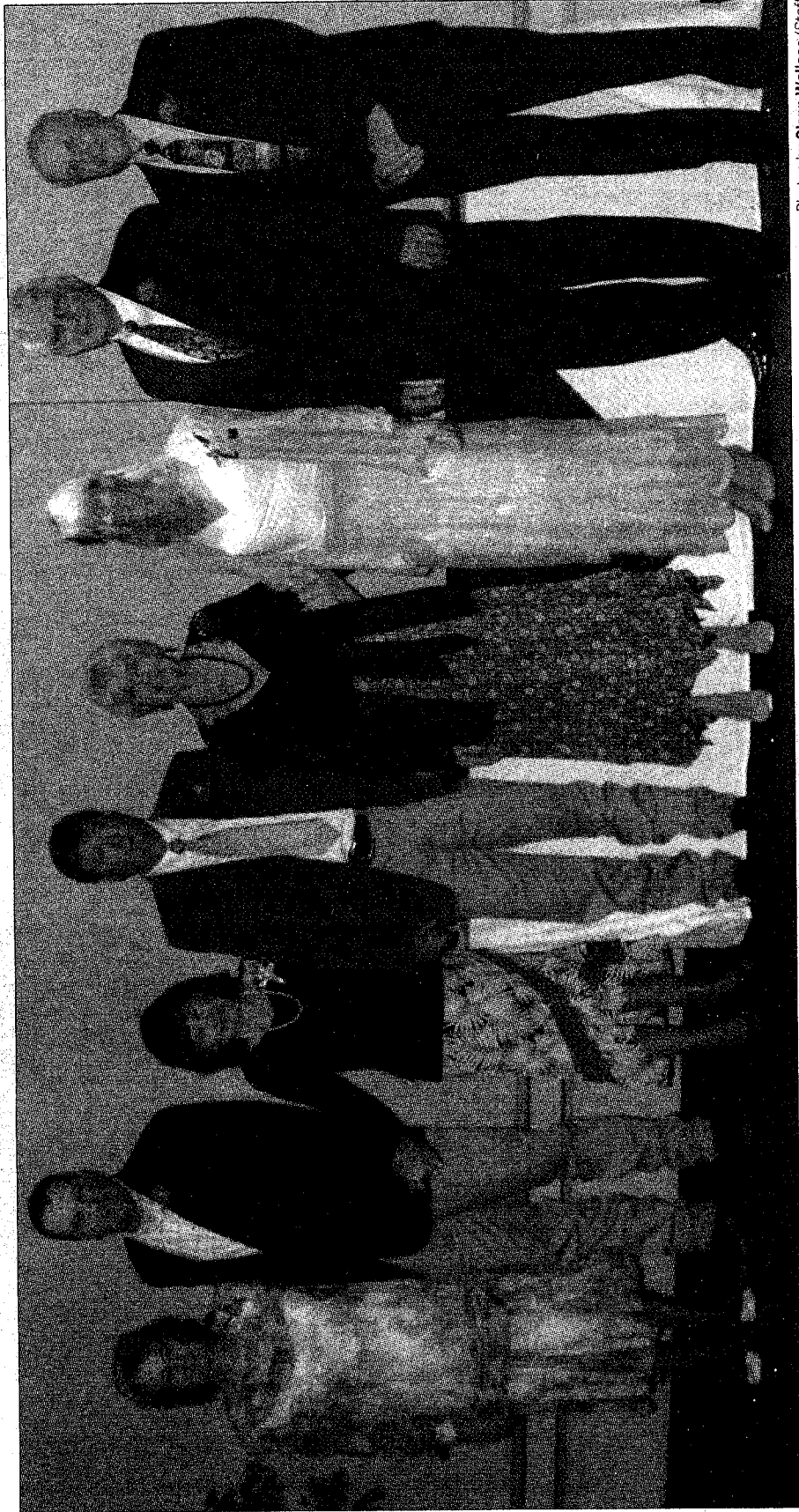
Hollywood Helpers: from left Kelly McGinnis, Natalie Needham, Bailey Needham, Matt Hidalgo, Kalah Needham



Excellent Emcees: Buellton Chamber Board Member Tish Beltrenena and former CBS exec Ed Joyce

# Man, woman of year honored

Thursday, March 29, 2007



Photos by Glenn Wallace/Staff

**Honored at Saturday night's 11th annual Santa Ynez Valley Awards Banquet at the Santa Ynez Valley Marriott, from left, Carolyn D. Petersen, woman of the year, Gene Klaff, volunteer of the year, Joannie Jamieson, volunteer of the year, Kenny Hollister, volunteer of the year, Sonnie Lindquist, volunteer of the year, Charlotte Bredahl-Baker, volunteer of the year, Paul Matthies, volunteer of the year and W. Peter Robbins, man of the year.**