

Features:

RENDEZVOUS RECAP

STATE BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

OFFICER TRAINING REPORTS

UNIT NEWS!

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The Backcountry News



Volume 11, Issue 1

The Official Quarterly Publication of Backcountry Horsemen of California

Spring 2003

Rendezvous 2003!

- Highlights
- Contest Winners
- Photos
- Winning Recipes
- Raffle Winners



Photo by: Bruce DeMott
Anthony and Nicole Serpa



***BCHC
SUPPORTS
OUR
TROOPS!***

**Top of the State in
Castle Crag
Wilderness
*Page 21***

The Backcountry News

A Quarterly Publication of the Backcountry Horsemen of California

Editor • Jessica Damon Reeves

3712 Roseanne Lane • Modesto, CA 95356

(209) 595-1701

Email: news@bchc.com

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Deadlines - Advertising, announcements, pictures and other copy must be received at The Backcountry News by the deadlines listed below.

Deadline

May 24, 2003

August 26, 2003

November 25, 2003

February 27, 2004

Publication Date

July 1, 2003 - Summer

October 1, 2003 -Fall

January 6, 2004 - Winter

April 15, 2004 - Spring

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Full Page	\$75.00	\$71.25	\$67.50	\$63.75	} Cost per issue
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Membership Matters?

Contact Membership Coordinator, Karen Harper.

She'll be happy to address any of your questions or concerns.

Karen can be reached Monday through Friday,

toll free: 1-866-748-2033

by mail: P.O. Box 530, Squaw Valley, CA 93675-0530

or email: membership@bchc.com

2003 Executive Committee

President

John Keyes • (559) 539-2816 • keymac@ocsnet.net

1st Vice-President

Paul "Chip" Herzig • (909) 769-3781 • chiph@pe.net

2nd Vice-President

Juanita Kirkpatrick • (661) 270-0588 • twomules@att.net

Secretary

Carol Jo Hargreaves • (888) 302-2242 • cjohargreaves@worldnet.att.net

Treasurer

Lynn Joiner • (661) 589-7993 • lyjoine@zeus.kern.org

Vice President of Education

Charles "Sandy" Newsome • (209) 667-8599 • sanbarnew@aol.com

Vice President of Public Lands

Barbara Ferguson • (559) 299-5440 • hvr@netptc.net

BCHA National Director

Jerry Ledbetter • (530) 642-0365 • jerbarranch@directcon.net

BCHA National Director

Ben York • (619) 445-5604 • benztrailz@aol.com

BCHA Alternate Director

Mike Jorgensen • (559) 535-4043 • mnjorgensen@thegrid.net

Past President

Charles "Toby" Horst • (559) 855-7765 • easyrider@psnw.com

2003 State Coordinators

Accounting

Janyth Short • (661) 322-8299

Annual Meeting

Carol Jo Hargreaves • (888) 302-2242 • cjohargreaves@worldnet.att.net

Insurance

Paul "Chip" Herzig • (909) 769-3781 • chiph@pe.net

Membership

Karen Harper • (866) 748-2033 • membership@bchc.com

Newsletter Editor

Jessica Damon Reeves • (209) 595-1701 • news@bchc.com

Rendezvous 2004

John Keyes • (559) 539-2816 • keymac@ocsnet.net

Web Coordinator

Donn Coon • (805) 488-2646 • webmaster@bchc.com

OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSE of the BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA

from the BCHC Bylaws

- To improve and promote the use, care and development of California backcountry trails, campsites, streams and meadows; to advocate good trail manners.
- To promote the conservation and utilization of our backcountry resources in concert with livestock transportation.
- To keep the backcountry trails and forage areas open to horsemen on all public lands.
- To keep current information before the Corporation membership and its local Units regarding new legislation or management plans related to government regulations of the backcountry.
- To support or oppose new proposals, plans and restrictions as related to the interest of horsemen and those persons interested in recreational stock use and enjoying the backcountry.
- To promote the interest of people who, due to health or physical factors, need transportation other than by foot on backcountry trails.
- To promote public awareness and interest in the historical aspect of horsemen and stock in the backcountry and to help educate backcountry users on ways to use the trail and forage in a manner that conserves the backcountry resources.
- To assist in keeping the public informed of the vital need for a clean backcountry.
- To promote a working relationship with and keep the work and interests of the Corporation before our local, state and federal officials.
- To assist in the formation and continuation of local Units to carry out these purposes.

*Photos in Rendezvous section courtesy of: Bruce DeMott & Jessica Damon Reeves

President's Page

President's Fireside Chat



Now that we are finished with another great Rendezvous, (thank you Mid Valley Unit) we are looking forward to Rendezvous 2004. It is time to take all of this new found and re-found knowledge and share it with the members who were unable to attend. It is now time to really start working with all of the new members, and old, to review and teach the latest information about "Packing".

We are an organization that will only grow when we ALL pitch in and teach each other. If we do not teach, we do not grow; if we do not grow we will cease to exist. Many have said that we are breaking away from the beginning goals of BCHC. I see we are only still learning about BCHC and what it entails to be a member. There are still so many trails that need to be ridden, there are still so many trails that need to be fixed, and there are still so many people we need to teach about this great way of life.

Now that the packing season is here, let us remember the new members. Seasoned members: BCHC needs you. We need you to work together for the enhancement of this great organization. Train, train and re-train is the answer.

Today a "greenhorn" (we have all been there, and I am still there in some areas) tomorrow an accomplished "packer" that will continue on with this historic way of life.

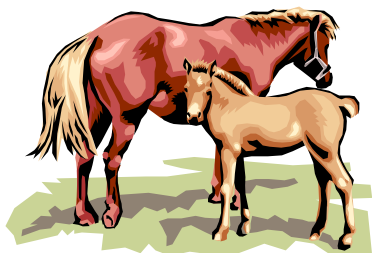
WE are the future.

Yes, there will always be struggles. The struggle of keeping intact a way of recreation and a way of life we all enjoy. The struggle will continue by outside sources of trying to keep a trail closed. This is a struggle we can manage if we ALL work together. Let's use our Public Lands people, and the connections we have developed over the years in this quest to save OUR trails on Public Lands. Yes, we are a volunteer organization first, but if being a hard working volunteer does not help in our quest to keep trails on public lands open, then there must be other alternatives and we should not be afraid to speak out on our behalf.

Let's have a goal to continue to teach. We have outstanding education people, willing and able to help. BCHC is the leader in the equine trails world and we should remain the leader. Be involved with your Unit and learn about your Unit. Make new friends and always remember to have FUN. Good packing and use OUR trails.

Your President,

John Keyes



Are you interested in telling the world about BCHC?

BCHC is looking for a volunteer to accept the position of Public Relations Coordinator.

Interested candidates shall submit request for consideration to John Keyes, BCHC President, no later than July 15, 2003.

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State Board Meeting

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA HIGHLIGHTS OF STATE BOARD MEETING

Held in the Exhibit Hall (E-1), Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, Turlock, CA
Friday, March 14, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. on Friday, March 14, by President John Keyes. John thanked Mid Valley unit for their hard work on the Rendezvous, thanked the Executive Committee for their support and thanked the units for their hospitality during his visits.

Secretary C.J. Hargreaves called roll. All units except Sierra Freepackers were represented. 2003 Directories, individual unit insurance policies and the finalized booklet, "Starting a New Backcountry Horsemen Unit", were distributed.

Minutes of the October 18-19, 2002 State Board meeting were approved as mailed.

C.J. announced two items of correspondence received: (1) 1/19/03 SBC Pacific Bell bill with new \$200 toll and long distance limit and 15-day Due by Date. (2) 2003 Bishop Mule Days invitation, general information, Concessionaire Application and Concession Insurance Application. Free booth space and insurance secured. The Education Committee is in charge.

There were no additions to the Agenda.

REPORTS

The 2/28/03 Treasurer's Report was accepted.

Jerry Ledbetter, National Director, announced the April 25-27, 2003 BCHA national meeting in Coos Bay, Oregon. Jerry and Ben York plan to attend. Their goal is to increase communication.

First Vice President and Insurance Coordinator, Chip Herzig, announced we have a new insurance policy and carrier. Each unit has its own individual policy in the Unit President's name, paid for by the State organization based upon the number of members in the unit (minimum premium is \$400/unit). Chip explained highlights of the policy: 3 free days (one parade, one pack clinic, one "other"), public days (stock present, non-members invited), parade charges at \$4.25/horse, event calendars required. Chip is the point of contact for BCHC. Report accidents to him immediately. An additional number for Chip is: (909) 845-5563. Two weeks' notice is required to obtain insurance company approval of an event and 3 to 4 weeks for issuance of an additional insured certificate. Discussed BCHC Bylaws and policies. Need to redefine "family" and address grandchildren and other wards.

Karen Harper, Membership Coordinator, explained the 12/31/02 Demographics Report. Redshank Riders Unit increased its Director allocation. Karen will be in the State Booth during Rendezvous to accept membership applications and answer questions. C.J. Hargreaves distributed the finalized How to Start a

New Backcountry Unit handbook and thanked Donn Coon, Karen Harper and Lynn Joiner for their assistance in compiling and publishing the 2003 Directory of State and Unit Officers.

Sandy Newsome, Vice President of Education, announced that 20 of 26 units were represented at the Education Committee meeting. The Stock Camping Manual is for sale for \$45.00/copy and the Youth Manual for \$15.00. The 2003 Education Committee Budget is included in the Treasurer's Report. The Education Committee approved the proposed Wilderness Rider Code of Ethics. Wilderness Rider Training will be held June 21-26 in the Shasta Trinity National Forest. Applications are available in the State Booth and interviews will be conducted during Rendezvous. A third level of Gentle Use Pin is being considered, to be finalized in October and implemented in March 2004. The Education Committee plans to develop more publications this year. Ladd Stokes is in charge of the Bishop Mule Days booth. Contact him at (909) 676-4897 or stokes@temecula.com if you can help. The Wilderness Rider Code of Conduct was adopted.

Barbara Ferguson, Vice President of Public Lands, reported six recommendations from the Public Lands Committee: (1) Recommend the State Board support proposed right to ride language, as follows, to be sent to BCHA for their support: "The land managers of Federal lands controlled or operated by the National Park Service, United States Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management shall manage and operate those lands in such a way as to preserve and facilitate the continued use of such lands for recreational pack and saddle stock use on such lands where there is a historical tradition of such use." The proposed language was approved. (2) Recommend Barbara send a letter to Superintendent Martin, Sequoia Kings Canyon National Park, to support the move of Wolverton Pack Station to a new location in the park so the pack station may remain open. Barbara Ferguson will write and send the letter as recommended.

(3) Recommend a BCHC resolution stating our objections to Park use of helicopters to supply backcountry rangers when the Park has its own pack stock or can hire a commercial packer. Discussion ensued regarding waiting six months to work through the resolution process. Barbara Ferguson will write a letter from the State Board then work with people in the area to develop a formal resolution.

(4) The State Board previously approved

\$4000 financial support for the Kern Sierra Unit lawsuit on the 3 Wilderness Plan. The suit was filed 2/28/03. BCHC will be billed approximately \$400. The suit is currently in "hold mode". Barbara will keep us informed of its progress. (5) Recommend support of Sequoia Monument Management Plan Alternative #6. (6) Recommend a letter of comment on the Anza Borrego Plan because the State violated CEQA.

Mid Valley Unit Director, Lloyd Erlandson, presented a check for \$1500 to the BCHC Legal Defense Fund and challenged other units to meet or beat this amount. Ben York contributed \$100. Melody Fountain-Stone announced that Los Padres Unit had contributed \$1000 and Katie Horst reminded us that San Joaquin Sierra Unit had begun the challenge by contributing the first \$1500.

C. J. Hargreaves thanked Donn Coon, BCHC Web Master, for his continuing support and responsiveness.

C.J. Hargreaves introduced Editor, Jessica Damon Reeves, and announced the 3/21 deadline for submissions to the Spring edition of the Backcountry News. Printing and mailing may be moved to the Oakdale Leader to improve communication and quality and reduce costs. C.J. thanked Jessica for her professionalism and enthusiasm. Sandy Newsome thanked Jessica for the great job she did on the Rendezvous 2003 program booklet.

OLD BUSINESS

2002 Budgets were reviewed previously.

Juanita Kirkpatrick, Second Vice President, announced that the following 12 units have not submitted their 2002 Volunteer Service Hours Reports: Borrego Valley, Eastern Sierra, High Country, High Sierra, Kern River Valley, Lake-Mendo, Los Padres, Mojave River, Ohlone Riders, Redwood and Santa Ana River. Please submit them to Juanita by 3/21/03. The 14 units reporting totaled \$776,540.20 in work value for 9,235 work hours. In October Juanita will remind units to turn in their reports by the end of January.

Sandy Newsome welcomed everyone to Rendezvous 2003. Lloyd Erlandson, Raffles/Auction Chairman, requested unit donations (items or cash) to enhance the silent and oral/live auctions.

Chip Herzig announced that the Permission Slip distributed in final form at the October 2002 State Board meeting is now obsolete. A new permission slip/

release form is included in each unit's insurance policy packet. This slip is for non-members only and must be signed by each and every non-member before a ride. Each child must be listed individually. The Release does not apply to parades. This is a policy change as non-members may now participate in BCHC activities but are required to have a signed Release in advance to be permitted to do so. Chip will arrange to post the new form on the BCHC web page.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2003 Committee budgets, as included in the 2/28/03 Treasurer's report, were approved.

Chip Herzig reported he is currently researching prices of the Treasurer's Bond and the Officer/Director liability insurance that come due in late April and early May, respectively. Dan Clifford clarified that liability insurance covers your acts if you injure someone else and Worker's Comp covers you.

John Keyes distributed a draft contract proposal for a BCHC Publicity Coordinator, stating that some units feel BCHC needs more exposure but the Executive Committee recommends no support. There are three alternatives: (1) Individual unit PR person, (2) volunteer BCHC member, and (3) paid PR person. Discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of hiring a PR person. Sandy Newsome (Mid Valley) reminded Directors that BCHC member, Cheryl Filarski, is a trained professional journalist/publicist. Cheryl distributed useful news release formats and sample releases at the Education Committee meeting. Michael Murphy (North Bay) reported that his unit invites local media to attend their events. Karl Pendegraft (High Sierra) suggested that since most of the publications listed in the draft contract are national in scope, BCHA should place the releases and articles. Motion to offer a contract for PR Coordinator failed. John Keyes urged Presidents to return to their units, discuss press releases and get the BCHC name out. He added that he hoped a volunteer PR Coordinator will step forward.

Discussed BCHC joining other equine-related coalitions. In September 2001 the State Board adopted eight criteria/guidelines recommended by BCHA for the purpose of evaluating new affiliations. The BCHC President will filter requests to join other equine-related coalitions then bring potential groups to the State Board for final approval. Existing affiliations will be reviewed annually.

Discussed BCHC attending trail issue meetings. With Executive Committee support, John Keyes will attend trail issue meetings to increase BCHC exposure. Chip Herzig lead discussion of BCHC Bylaws Article IV, Section I, Members –

State Board Meeting

definition of "family". The Bylaws and BCHC policy were read aloud. Our new insurance carrier requires our policy to match our Bylaws. BCHC policy will be revised to read exactly as the Bylaws read. The Executive Committee will develop wording and a form for temporary guardianship.

John Keyes reported he had researched fairgrounds throughout the state for a Rendezvous 2004 location. Santa Maria is most affordable (\$12,000). Rendezvous will be held March 12-14, 2004. Please submit Rendezvous 2005 location ideas to John as soon as possible so a site can be reserved.

C.J. Hargreaves announced the October State Board meeting to be held October 17-19, 2003, in Santa Nella at the Ramada Inn Mission d' Oro.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:35 p.m.

Lynn Joiner met with unit Treasurers after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Jo Hargreaves
State Secretary

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA Executive Committee Meeting Latif's Restaurant, Turlock, CA Minutes March 13, 2003

President John Keyes called the meeting to order at 5:52 p.m.

An attendance sheet was routed for all to sign.

EC MEMBERS PRESENT: John Keyes, Chip Herzig, Juanita Kirkpatrick, Carol Jo Hargreaves, Lynn Joiner, Barbara Ferguson, Sandy Newsome, Ben York, Jerry Ledbetter, Mike Jorgensen, Toby Horst

EC MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Karen Harper, Membership Coordinator, Katie Horst (San Joaquin Sierra), Kristin Keyes (Sequoia), Linda Herzig (San Geronio Pass), Nan Jorgensen (Sequoia), Barbara Newsome (Mid Valley), Barbara Ledbetter (Mother Lode), Tom Acord (Redwood), Richard Wilson (Sutter Buttes), Phillip and Pamela Hill (Mojave River), Lloyd Erlandson (Mid Valley), Pete Kriger (Redwood), Will Scott (Redwood), Adeline York (San Diego), Cheryl Jordan (San Diego), Darrell Readmond (Sequoia), Ralph Looney (Sutter Buttes).

The minutes of the January 11, 2003 Executive Committee meeting were approved as e-mailed and corrected.

CORRESPONDENCE

C.J. Hargreaves shared items of correspondence received since the January 11, 2003 meeting:

- 1/19/03 SBC Pacific Bell bill with new toll and long distance limit and 15-day Due by Date. Barbara Ferguson suggested paying double on the next bill to ensure on-time payment. Lynn Joiner, Treasurer, agreed to do so.
- 3/1/03 e-mail from Mehzen Alamoudi, Emirates Equestrian Center, Dubai, UAE. Agreed not to respond.
- 2003 Bishop Mule Days invitation, general information, Concessionaire Application and Concession Insurance Application. Free booth space and insurance secured. Education Committee in charge.
- 3/2/03 e-mail from Peg Greiwe, BCHA, inviting us to cost-share BCHA trifold brochure reprinting. Agreed not to purchase these brochures as BCHC has its own. EC directed C.J. Hargreaves to follow up with Peg Greiwe about this decision.

Two items were added to the Agenda: Under Old Business, define "Family" for insurance purposes. Under New Business, California Equestrian Trails & Lands Coalition.

REPORTS

Lynn Joiner, Treasurer, distributed a report of revenue and expenditures through 2/28/03. Questions were answered. **Chip Herzig moved to accept the report, Barbara Ferguson second. The Treasurer's report was accepted.**

The Committee broke to enjoy dinner and dessert.

Jerry Ledbetter, National Director, reminded us of the annual BCHA meeting to be held in Coos Bay, OR, April 24-27, 2003. Ben York, National Director, reported that wording regarding recreational stock and pack use will be proposed, through the Public Lands Committee, for addition to Wilderness Act language. Jerry requested specific input from BCHC to take to the national meeting.

Chip Herzig, Insurance Coordinator, announced that policies, Release Forms and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) will be distributed to units at the 3/14 State Board meeting. Chip is in the process of researching policies and prices for the Treasurer's bond and the Officer/Director liability insurance.

C.J. Hargreaves thanked Donn Coon, Karen Harper and Lynn Joiner for their assistance in compiling and publishing

the 2003 Directory of State and Unit Officers. Extra copies are available for \$1.00/each. The Directory is now available on the BCHC website, where changes can be made by notifying Donn Coon and copies printed as desired. C.J. announced the October State Board meeting to be held October 17-19, 2003 at the Ramada Inn Mission d'Oro in Santa Nella. She will research buffet dinner possibilities at Pea Soup Andersen's and the Ramada Inn.

Sandy Newsome, Vice President of Education, reported that the Wilderness Rider Code of Conduct will be presented to the Education Committee 3/14. If passed, it will be brought to the State Board for approval. This Code only applies to Wilderness Riders. Sandy announced that a few copies of the Packers' Manual and Youth Program resource book remain for sale at \$45.00 and \$15.00/each, respectively. A class on how to start a youth program will be held 3/15.

Barbara Ferguson, Vice President of Public Lands, distributed copies of the 3/15 PLC Agenda and BCHC-Kern Sierra Unit lawsuit on the 3 Wilderness Plan, filed 2/28/03 in Washington, DC, District Court. Barbara will maintain monthly contact with Ann Lange to report activity. BCHC previously pledged \$4000 financial support for this lawsuit.

C.J. Hargreaves reported for Webmaster, Donn Coon, that when considering establishing new units, unit names should be carefully selected to incorporate location and not exceed a total of twenty characters and spaces in length. C.J. praised Donn for his responsiveness, helpfulness and knowledge. Discussed Client Access rights and how denial of rights helped obtain new officer lists from units this year. **Sandy Newsome moved to add Client Access for the 5-person Education Steering Committee. Lynn Joiner second. Motion unanimously carried.** John Keyes will ask Donn to include this group in the Client Access menu.

C.J. Hargreaves announced that all Rendezvous and State Board meeting reports and photos must be submitted to Jessica Damon Reeves by Friday, 3/21, for publication in the Spring edition of The Backcountry News. Printing and mailing will be moved from Fresno to the Oakdale Leader at a cost savings. Toby requested 200-300 additional copies of the News to distribute at Horse Expo. If this amount causes costs to exceed the budgeted amount, the Education Committee will be charged the overage.

Juanita Kirkpatrick, Second Vice President, reported 14 of 26 units submitted their 2002 Volunteer Service Hours Reports. 9235 hours were worked at a total value of \$776,540.

Sandy Newsome, Rendezvous 2003 Chairman, announced opening of the Rendezvous with approximately the same number of advance registrations as last year. He explained Packing 101 and raffle procedures

OLD BUSINESS:

C.J. circulated a copy of the Non-Member Mailing List for revisions. C.J. will ask Karen Harper to reorganize the list by legislative district, if possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

2003 Committee budgets were discussed at the 1/11/03 Executive Committee meeting.

Discussed a contract proposal received from Bonnie Davis for BCHC Public Relations. John Keyes will present the proposal at the State Board meeting but make it clear that the Executive Committee does not support hiring a PR person. Instead we prefer units and/or volunteers handle publicity for their own geographic areas.

Discussed BCHC joining other equine-related coalitions. Agreed we want to maintain our organization's identity and purpose. Ben York reminded us that we previously adopted eight BCHA criteria for determining the efficacy of joining another group. These criteria will be reiterated at the State Board meeting.

Discussed BCHC attending trail issues meetings. John Keyes plans to attend as many as possible since other organizations would like BCHC at the table.

Jerry Ledbetter reported briefly on Partners in Stewardship, a national conference on a wide range of subjects including education, trails, greenways, etc., to be held in Los Angeles, November 17-20, 2003. Agreed BCHA should attend to present information about our nationwide organization. John Keyes will contact Al Sammons.

To date no unit volunteered to host Rendezvous 2004. John Keyes researched fairground prices throughout the state and determined Santa Maria offered the most amenities at a reasonable cost. Work will be divided among all units. Jennifer Fuller volunteered to be Vendor Chairperson and Lynn Joiner will serve as Rendezvous Treasurer. A location for Rendezvous 2005 should be determined as soon as possible. Tulare and Turlock are possibilities.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Jo Hargreaves
State Secretary

Officer Training

COMMUNICATING WITH THE PUBLIC

Presentation from the Southern Units' Officers' Training, 25 January, 2003
By Linda Eskin, Caballeros del Sol (Linda@LindaEskin.com)

This is not about "public speaking", it's about communicating, changing minds, and producing results.

HOW DO WE COMMUNICATE WITH THE PUBLIC, AND WHY?

There are many ways of communicating:

- Speaking one-on-one
- Speaking informally to a small group
- Making a presentation to a group
- Writing a direct letter to a person
- Writing an open letter (to an editor, for instance) or article
- Creating a flier
- Sending an e-mail message to a group

Keep your eyes on the prize - What are your goals?

- Invite new members to volunteer and participate
- Educate backcountry / trail users
- Create changes in behavior - Gentle Use, good trail manners, etc.
- Establish alliances in government, and with other user groups
- Raise money, encourage sponsorships, solicit donations

Remember that when you are representing BCHC, your personal feelings and beliefs need to be set aside, and you should present the BCHC stand on the issue, and focus on getting the desired results.

THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE COMMUNICATING

Understand your audience:

- Can this person make a difference? If not, don't bother them. Instead, find the appropriate person, and direct your communication to them.
- What is their background?
- Are they familiar with the issue?

You can't go too far wrong by assuming that your audience knows nothing.

Understand the issues:

- Try to research and understand the issues you will be addressing.
- If you do not fully understand the issue, and don't have time to research it, only address the parts you do understand.
- Don't guess or try to go beyond your knowledge. It is better to say, "I've heard that this could be an important issue for us. I hope you will look into it and let your representatives know how you feel about it" than to wing it and be seen as an unreliable source of information.

Be clear, concise and memorable:

If you aren't clear about what you are communicating, how can your audience be clear about what they're hearing?

- Keep the message simple - just 2-3 points.
- Stick to just the things your audience needs to know.
- An illustrative story, or vivid example of how the issue could affect the audience, can help them remember your point.

Organize your thoughts:

- Write down a very brief outline before you start your talk.
- Be sure to cover the 4 items ("Ask yourself...") below.
- In your spare time, do this as an exercise for those issues you encounter frequently so that you can address them clearly when they come up. ("What is RS-2477?" "How does it affect horse folks?" "What should we do about it?")

NOW, PUT IT INTO ACTION

So, you are about to communicate something to someone...

...write a letter to the editor of a magazine.

...address your Board of Supervisors about an issue before them.

...talk to some riders at a trailhead.

Ask yourself these 4 things...

- What is the point I'm trying to make?
- What information do they need to understand the issue?
- How does it affect them? Why should they care?
- What action do I want from the audience? Ask for it!

Example:

- It's important to leave the trailer parking area clean.
- If we don't clean up after ourselves, someone else will have to.
- If it becomes an ongoing problem, we'll all lose trail access.
- Please clean up the poop, hay, and shavings around your trailer.

THINGS THAT HAVE NO PLACE IN COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE PUBLIC:

Anything potentially offensive to the listener.

Say what you will about "political correctness" but if you are trying to get action out of your audience you do not want to offend them. We need all the friends we can get and although we might have widely different views on outside issues, we can still work together on the issues where we are trying to make a difference.

You never know if the influential person you are addressing might be the parent of a horse-show-kid, is married to someone of a different race/religion/etc., or is a committed environmentalist, off-roader, and so on.

- DON'T use angry, ranting, or foul language
- DON'T make racist, sexist, or religious comments
- DON'T use inflammatory political language
- DON'T make vague accusations ("I think we all know who the problem is at Parks...")
- DON'T name-call or use terms like:
 - ♦ Greenies, enviro-nazis, Sierra-Clubbers, granola-heads...
 - ♦ &#@\$@ mountain bikers / hunters / OHVers...
 - ♦ Those silly English / endurance / Western pleasure riders...
 - ♦ Ditzzy Ay-rabs, thick-headed mules, dumb-bloods...

Anything that would alienate or confuse the listener (make them feel stupid and left out).

- Referring to players or issues as if they should already know what or who you are talking about. ("Things have been much better since Dianne got that indemnification thing through.")
- Discussing controversial issues as though it's assumed they will automatically be in agreement with you. ("Well, of course we all know that unless X happens this country is going down the drain.")

Anything that might discredit you in the eyes of your audience.

- Avoid getting sidetracked into controversial areas. If you talk to your plants, believe aliens live among us, or just got out of prison, that's fine, but there is no need to bring it up and give your audience cause to question you as a source of information. Stay on-topic.

You can sabotage your own message and your own interests by being more committed to being right than to being effective.

Think of the effect on your audience before speaking.

Officer's Training 2003 Southern Session

The BCHC Southern Units' Officers' Training included 21 Attendees representing eight units. The Training was held in Downtown San Diego, on Saturday, January 25th, 2003, and was hosted by the Caballeros del Sol Unit.

There was an enormous amount of material covered, with everyone contributing to the presentations and discussion. Most of those present have been involved in BCHC for some years, with experience in multiple offices and committees. A few were newer members, just starting in new positions. Many thanks to all who took the time (and for some, made the very long drive) to come and share their ideas, ask questions, and learn from one another.

John Keyes opened the proceedings with a brief discussion of BCHC priorities. Linda Eskin gave the keynote presentation, "Communicating with the Public". Chip Herzig filled us in on the details of liability insurance.

We broke into 4 groups to talk about the responsibilities and challenges of various aspects of managing a unit, attracting members, holding meetings, creating newsletters, producing web sites, raising funds and so on. After having our brown-bag lunches together we spent another hour or so working in our groups.

The afternoon session offered everyone an opportunity to bring up anything they needed to share with the group - questions, suggestions, requests for help.... We covered the need for a host for Rendezvous 2004, several urgent public lands issues, and some internal BCHC business.

The training was very productive and interesting. Another unit has already offered to host the training for next year (thank you!) - details to be announced. We'll see you there!

Current Events

Officer's Training 2003 Central Session

26 members from 7 Units attended the Central Session of Officer Training. The meeting was held at the Baptist Church in Springville on January 18, 2003.

The Secretaries and Treasurer's were combined for their specialized breakout session, while other Officers concentrated on their own specific functions. In addition to the Officer Training Manual, many group leaders came prepared with additional handouts. These were distributed to highlight key points and job functions. Many personal stories were shared so that all could learn from real experiences. Past State President, Toby Horst, handed out a well-written overview of BCHC Public Lands Purpose, Policy and Process.

Keynote Speaker, Jorene Downs, of the Sequoia Unit used a computer-generated slide show (MS-Powerpoint) to highlight topics and talking points for her presentation: "Taking Advantage of Contemporary Communications". This program is available for all to read online at: www.bchc-sequoia.org/pptcomm/

A hot lunch was provided at a small cost. Thanks to the Sequoia Unit for hosting this year's informative and tasty event!

United We Stand

Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day because it was a time set aside to honor the nation's Civil War dead by decorating their graves. It was first widely observed on May 30, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers, by proclamation of General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former sailors and soldiers. On May 5, 1868, Logan declared in General Order No. 11 that:

The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.

During the first celebration of Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery.

This 1868 celebration was inspired by local observances of the day in several towns throughout America that had taken place in the three years since the Civil War. In fact, several Northern and Southern cities claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day, including Columbus, Mississippi; Macon, Georgia; Richmond, Virginia; Boalsburg, Pennsylvania; and Carbondale, Illinois.

In 1966, the federal government, under the direction of President Lyndon Johnson, declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day. They chose Waterloo—which had first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—because the town had made Memorial Day an annual, community-wide event during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

By the late 1800s, many communities across the country had begun to celebrate Memorial Day and, after World War I, observances also began to honor those who had died in all of America's wars. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May. (Veterans Day, a day set aside to honor all veterans, living and dead, is celebrated each year on November 11.)

Today, Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington National Cemetery with a ceremony in which a small American flag is placed on each grave. Also, it is customary for the president or vice-president to give a speech honoring the contributions of the dead and lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. About 5,000 people attend the ceremony annually.

Several Southern states continue to set aside a special day for honoring the Confederate dead, which is usually called Confederate Memorial Day:

- Mississippi: Last Monday in April
- Alabama: Fourth Monday in April
- Georgia: April 26
- North Carolina: May 10
- South Carolina: May 10
- Louisiana: June 3
- Tennessee (Confederate Decoration Day): June 3
- Texas (Confederate Heroes Day): January 19
- Virginia: Last Monday in May



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Members of the Northern Session Officer's Training

Officer's Training 2003 Northern Session

Seven of the eight units in Northern California gathered in Palo Cedro on January 18, 2003. Those attending were Top of the State, High Country, Redwood, Shasta Trinity, Sutter Buttes, Lake-Mendo and Mother Lode. State President, John Keyes and his wife, Kris, joined in on the day's discussions.

The group of 28 had an informational round robin discussion on each office as well as what works in each of their Units. Bill Balfrey, Top of the State Vice President, spoke on the subject of giving a speech. Bill is recently retired from College of the Siskiyous after 36 years in the Speech and Psychology Department.

Current Events

Insurance Update

by Chip Herzig, 1st Vice President

At the 2003 Rendezvous I distributed to all Presidents their unit insurance policies. Each unit now has an individual policy specifically written for each and every unit. This is a significant change from the last few years. Another significant change is our new carrier allows "public days." Yes, you can invite non-BCHC to a riding event and even have them ride with you. All that is required is that we let our insurance agent know we want this and waalaa!! I have included the request forms for public days and additional insured with each unit's packet. There is more about public days later on in this article, so keep on reading.

So what exactly is this insurance stuff anyway? Our insurance is called liability insurance but in effect it is insurance for everyone else except us. What that means is say Bill Bishop's famous mule backs through his friend's front room door even though the door was shut when on a unit ride, then our insurance will pay for the new door. What our insurance is **NOT** is health insurance for you or your horse or coverage for your trailer. (You need to obtain those types of policies yourself)

The other new part of our insurance policy is *public days*. Public days are where we invite non-members to participate with us. Each unit can do this three times a year for free (the freebies are part of our policy). If you want to have more public days let me know and we'll work it out with our carrier. The additional days will cost about \$51 per event day. What types of events are we talking about? They can be pack clinics (with live animals), knot tying clinics (on our trusty mules), trail rides, overnight pack-ins or parades. There are some types of events that cannot be used as public days (for example, rodeos). So, call, email or snail mail me and I'll let you know if your event is OK.

Some more new stuff is that we can now have dependent children ride with us and we are working on wording changes for our BCHC policies that will recognize guardianship children to be able to ride with us, too. This means we can have our grandkids come out with us, too. Once your Executive Committee reaches agreement on these words I'll let all of you know and we can start raising and training some NEW packers.

With all these changes and new freedoms come some new responsibilities. We have to ensure that our public day events are as safe as we can make them and we **MUST** have each non-member sign a Release Form prior to conducting our event. Hopefully we can use these new freedoms to grow our membership.

Have safe and rewarding rides.

Chip Herzig
Contact me at:
chiph@pe.net
909-769-3781
909-845-5563

Squaw Valley Mule Days!

May 3 & 4, 2003

Located at the Squaw Valley Rodeo Grounds, 35 miles east of Fresno.

Free Admission!

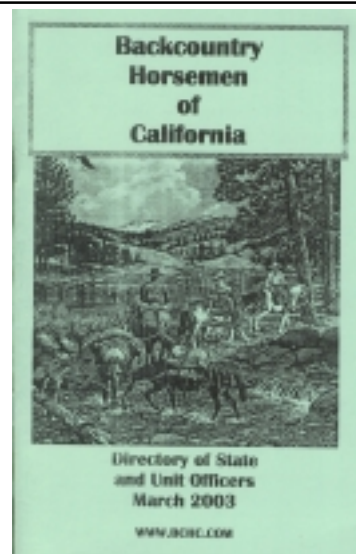
Classes start at 8:00am
English • Western • Packing • Driving • Roping • Penning

Dutch Oven Cook-Off,
Saturday, May 3rd.

For more information contact:

Nancy McCall at
(559) 332-9409
or
slashx@spiralcomm.net

*"A change of pasture
sometimes makes
the calf fatter."*



Officer Directory

The new Backcountry Horsemen of California Directory of State and Unit Officers is out.

If you did not receive one at the Rendezvous, please contact Lynn Joiner. You can also locate and print the directory from the BCHC website at www.bchc.com.



Starting a new Backcountry Horsemen Unit

Also distributed at the Rendezvous State Board meeting is the how-to book for starting a new unit. For those that did not receive a copy at the meeting, you may obtain a copy from C.J. Hargreaves.
1-888-302-2242

These Cowgirl Hearts

By Jeralynn Strong

Who gets up at the crack of dawn
Pulls their socks and boots right on
Heads out at the break of day?
We do! That's the cowgirl way.

Who grabs a loose-packed flake of hay
Throws it just the perfect way
To a 4-legged with the friendly neigh?
We do! That's the cowgirl way.

Who grabs a halter from a rusty nail
Curry and hoof pick in a dinged-up pail
Heads to the pasture with a canine crew?
We do! That's the cowgirl way.

Who makes a gentle clucking sound
One that turns that equine round
Thrills to the sound of a 4-beat gait?

We do! That's the cowgirl way.

Who will endure the grime on her clothes
Grin when she gets a nudge from a nose
Heave a saddle that weighs a ton?
Well! That's how cowgirls get things done.

Some take a jump and leap right on!
Some pick a stump in the middle of the lawn.
Some need a hoist! Some say screw it!
Whatever she can, a cowgirl'll do it.

Whether riding or watching some beautiful horse,
Enjoyment comes from this certain source,
I'm talkin' about anatomical parts...
I'm talkin' about "these Cowgirl Hearts!"

Current Events

Riders Want Happy Trails

By STEFANIE FRITH
THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE



The day couldn't have been more perfect for horseback riding. The rains had let up and the sun was shining. Friends Raylin Gibbons and Cindy Gudino rode their horses along a well-traveled trail that cuts through the orange groves near Van Buren Avenue in Riverside.

Gibbons reached out and plucked a plump orange off one of the trees. As she munched on the juicy piece of fruit, she looked sadly around her.

"These won't be here much longer," she said. "They aren't being watered any more and they will be taken down and paved over for houses. Then the trail won't be here either and we won't have anyplace to ride."

She could have just as easily been talking about the dwindling trails in Redlands, Murietta or Bloomington. Dirt trails are little match for new housing developments, streets and shopping centers.

Taking action

Some cities, like Rancho Mirage, are designating trails and places to keep horses. San Bernardino County is attempting to plot the locations of all its horse trails on a map that would eventually connect with a similar one being done in Riverside County.

Some older trails have become overgrown with weeds to the point that no one seems to know where they are anymore, said John Anicic, a Fontana resident and member of the San Bernardino County Trails

and Greenways Committee.

Committee members have cleared tall weeds and leveled a dirt field that had sunk in parts of Kessler Park in Bloomington.

"We are trying to see where the developments are and make sure they aren't being built on trails," said Anicic. "This needs to go on now because as time passes, there won't be any trails available.

We're just trying to save what's here."

Riders living near Hemet and the unincorporated areas of the Menifee, Quail and Paloma valleys are taking on a similar project.

They want to figure out how to connect and preserve the more than 3,000 trails in Riverside County. The city of Murrieta is trying to connect its trails with those in Menifee.

To the northwest, the Jurupa Valley Parks and Recreation Department is attempting to protect the trails that run through Pedley, Mira Loma and Rubidoux, said Bill Arden, regional president of the California Horsemen's Association. Developers are encouraged to build around the trails.

Arden remembers when he was able to ride his horse from his home in Pedley up into the Jurupa Hills, make a loop and return home. Now he has to backtrack because housing tracts have blocked access to the trails.

"I moved here (eight years ago) from Norwalk because it was open and I could ride my horses," said Arden. "But all these tract homes are taking over. Before long, they won't want my smelly horse around."

In Rancho Mirage, where riders once had to take their horses as far

away as Indio to ride, residents can now buy half-acre lots and have trails right nearby.

More than 250 acres of horse property and trails are being built now in the city, said Michael D. Cintas, owner of Equestrian Centers International.

"There are 5,000 horses in the desert," he said. "Now they have a place to keep them."

Property rights

Much is being done, but it's not enough, both riders and homeowners agree.

Residents who don't own horses don't know about horse etiquette and cover horse trails in front of their properties with rocks. The stones are painful for horses to step on and travel over.

On the other hand, "No Trespassing" signs put up on open land are sometimes ignored when new homes block established trails. The list of problems goes on and on, said Riverside County Supervisor Bob Buster.

For years, Riverside equestrians have been riding their horses through Mockingbird Canyon. Mockingbird Creek runs through a 600-foot-wide strip of open space tucked away between newer homes and Mockingbird Canyon Road. Nearby residents like Jerry Chrysong and Ann Brady believe the space is an open easement and available to the public.

But land has always been private and equestrians have been trespassing, said Buster. Those who buy the homes pay taxes on the land and pay liability insurance in case someone is injured while using the open space, he said.

Agreeing to help horse-riders, the county built a 25-foot-wide trail along Mockingbird Canyon Road, a project that cost \$40,000, Buster said.

Chrysong, a member of the Riverside Trails Committee, said the designated trail isn't safe. "We want to ride through the creek like we always have, away from the traffic along the road," said Chrysong, who has spent years digging into county paperwork searching for a way to prove the area is an open easement and allowed to be used by equestrians.

"We want to preserve it for our grandchildren. I'm not doing this for me."

Protection of the water has raised another hurdle for the equestrians. When riders complained about homeowners building fences along the creek, the California Department of Fish and Game shot back saying horses should not be allowed to ride through the water. The growing struggle to find nearby places to ride has many Inland equestrians unsure about the future.

They are glad trail committees are coming together to map out routes and preserve areas. But the maps could take more than 10 years to complete, and more than 1 million people are expected to move into the Inland area in that time. People like Gudino and Gibbons wonder how long it will be before they have to put their horses in trailers to travel to a place where they can ride them.

"I am just glad we have someplace to ride," said Gibbons, easing her horse, April, through the 25-foot trail along Mockingbird Canyon Road. "At least for now we can have some fun."

Reach Stefanie Frith at (909) 893-2114 or sfrith@pe.com



*"Kickin' never gets you nowhere,
'less'n you're a mule."*



Backcountry Horsemen of California

Who We Are and What We Do!

Backcountry Horsemen of California (BCHC) is a group of dedicated men and women working to preserve the historic use of trails with recreational pack and saddle stock. They perform public service activities for numerous land management agencies and they are continually working to educate their members on how to be "Gentle Users."

The use of livestock has played an important role in the American culture. California and the western states have particularly had a long tradition of using pack and saddle stock in the backcountry. BCHC carries on this tradition in modern times. With this use comes the responsibility and obligation to care for our public lands and to ensure their use for future generations.

Backcountry Horsemen of California works in cooperation with government agencies to help clear trails, maintain historic sites, construct new facilities, sponsor educational seminars and clinics, and assist with service projects as requested. They also strive to stay current on relevant issues and to provide input on management plans and activities that pertain to backcountry trails on public lands.

Membership in BCHC is open to any individual or family sharing the concerns of the organization. There are numerous units throughout the State. A member may affiliate with any one of our units, and as an Associate Member with any of the others. The units conduct activities of their choice, but also operate under broad guidelines established by the State Board. Each unit is represented on that Board by one or more Directors.

BCHC focuses its efforts in three key areas:

- Service Projects
- Education
- Public Lands Issues

BCHC offers a few Tips and Techniques for "Gentle Use" of the backcountry. You'll find this on our web site. We hope you will consider following these ideals, and we look forward to seeing you on the trail!

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Bakersfield, CA 93384-0007
www.bchc.com (3/01)

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You can obtain other useful publications at www.bchc.com.

From the home page, just click on the Publications link.

Rendezvous 2003

BCHC NEWS SPRING EDITION RENDEZVOUS UPDATE

By Sandy Newsome

March 14, 2003 Education Committee Meeting

The spring meeting of the Education Committee was held on March 14, 2003 at the Turlock Fairgrounds. 20 of 26 units were in attendance. Ruthie Heuer unveiled the Pack and Saddle Stock Camping Manual. They are on sale for \$45.00 and contain a wealth of information. Thank you, Ruthie Heuer and Darrah Glynn-Eisele for editing and typing this Manual. It is a great teaching tool and reference. If you don't have one be sure and purchase one. Ladd Stokes presented the Draft BCHC Outline for Youth Program. This book is available for \$15.00. Ladd also reported on the Educational Summary Sheets and how important it is for Education Chairs to complete these forms each year. Pete Kriger reported on the three Officer Training sessions held in January. Seven units were represented by 26 people at the Northern Session hosted by the Top of the State Unit, seven units were represented by 26 people at the Central Session hosted by the Sequoia Unit and eight units were represented by 21 people attending the Southern Session hosted by the San Diego Unit.

The 2003 Education Budget was reviewed. The Wilderness Rider Code of Conduct was discussed and a motion passed to recommend its approval by the State Directors. (Approval for the Code of Conduct was passed in the State Directors meeting on the afternoon of the 14TH.) A copy is

attached.

The current Gentle Use Point System was explained and much discussion followed. It was recommended that Gentle Use classes be worth more points than other elective-type classes and there be additional awards beyond the silver pin. More suggestions and further options will be discussed in October.

EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

The Sequoia Unit received the Unit Education Award for their efforts in 2002. It is a well-deserved honor recognizing the many activities and educational programs put together by the Sequoia Unit.

The Individual Education Award went to Larry Difani for the many years of work he put into the Educational Steering Committee. Larry helped start the Wilderness Rider Program and many other programs we value today. Congratulations, Larry DiFani!

TABLE DECORATIONS

All units out did themselves with wonderful table decorations. They added to the theme, appearance and evening. The winners were Most Humorous – Lake Mendocino Most Original – Shasta Trinity

Best Represents BCHC – Sierra Free Packers
Best Overall – Kern Sierra. As Overall Winner Kern Sierra Unit will chair the contest for 2004. Congratulations to all!

SKILLS CONTESTS

In the Goat Roping Contest, Tyler Imrie was the winner and Best Mutton Buster was Robert Williams III. Creed Howard won both the Pack Trail Class and the Scramble.

GENTLE USE DEMO CAMP

Winning the Gentle Use Demo Camp was of the Redshank Riders Unit lead by David Foster. Second went to Mid Valley and third to High Country Unit.

WESTERN ART SHOW

Winners of the Photography contest were:

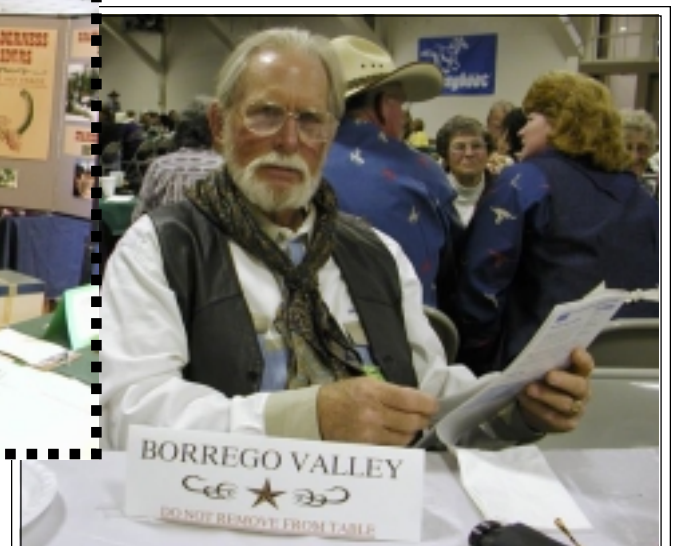
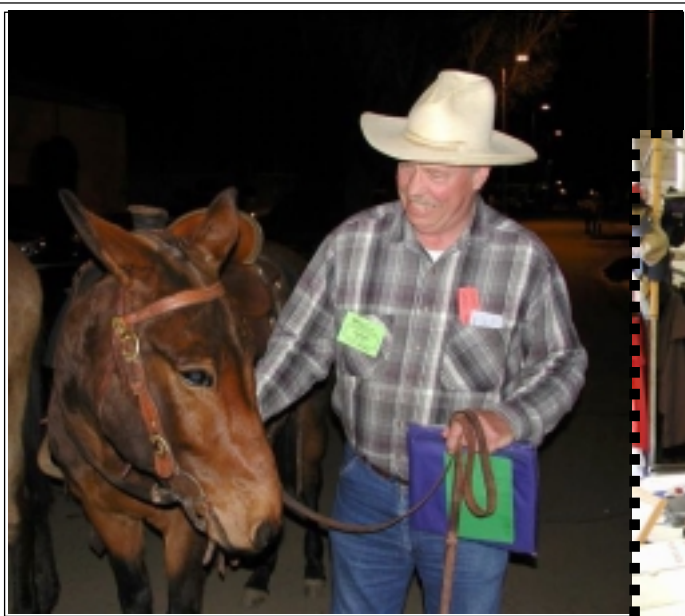
Gentle Use – Robert Hayden, Borrego Valley Unit,
Comedy – Linda Herzig, San Geronio Pass Unit
Scenic – Kelly Carle, Antelope Valley Unit
Other – Frank and Teresa Locatelli, Mid Valley Unit
Packing – Linda Herzig, San Geronio Pass Unit

Other winners:
Painting – Beth Sufit, Mid Valley Unit
Drawing – Dennis Jensen, Lake Mendocino
Needlework – Dianne Conway, North Bay Unit
Other Art Work and Best of Show – Betty Finch, Kern River Valley Unit

*Thank you, Barbara Newsome for organizing and chairing a successful art show and competition.

Rendezvous 2003

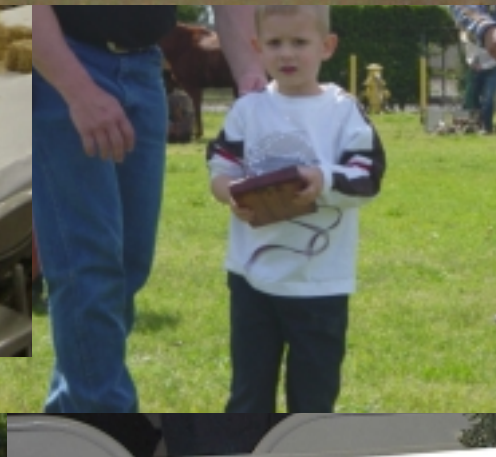
Comments by Chair, Sandy Newsome
I believe we had a very successful and fun Rendezvous. I'll take credit for the great weather although we all know I had no power over it! The Turlock Fairgrounds were a perfect facility and I had the best committee and hardest working crews from the Mid Valley Unit anyone could ask for. THANK YOU all for your help, time and work. As with any event there is room for improvement but I truly believe we were successful and some of the new things we tried worked out very well. It seemed to me that everyone enjoyed the Wine and Cheese reception in the vendor building on Saturday evening and it looked like many were making purchases. The live mules in the Auction were certainly a hit as they were ridden through the room. Once again, thank you to everyone for attending and to all those who helped out!



Photos by: Robert Hayden

Left to right, Jim Peterson - Mule auction winner; The Wilderness Riders' Booth; Les Levie, President of Borrego Valley Unit

Rendezvous 2003



Rendezvous 2003



Rendezvous 2003

President's Notes

by John Keyes

I want to again thank all of the people who worked so hard to put on the very successful Rendezvous 2003. I am amazed at the power the Mid Valley Unit has over Mother Nature. It rained at night, both Friday and Saturday, but the days were marvelous.

Thank you to Education for the great classes. This is what we are supposed to do: educate the new members and old, have classes on the latest ideas from members to make our trips into the mountains and other areas a fun time. Thank you to Public Lands. There was a lot of information to decipher. There were four DEIS/EIS letters to get done. It is the dedication of every member that makes BCHC such a wonderful organization. Thank You ALL.

Now to Rendezvous 2004. If you have not heard, the 2004 Rendezvous will be held in Santa Maria. The Executive Committee will again handle the organization of the Rendezvous (unless there is a Unit that would like to handle it all?) Each Unit will have a job. Remember, this is our Rendezvous. Many people have already stepped forward and said they will help. Please contact me and let me know what your Unit would like to do. We have done this before, and we can do it again...with your help.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

Gentle Use Program

By Ruthie Heuer

The Education Committee is considering different options for the Gentle Use Program. According to our stats over the past few years, we have fewer people in attendance to the core Gentle Use classes that are offered. This concerns us because anyone who visits the backcountry or front country of our wildlands should have the basic knowledge of Gentle Use and the reasons why those principles are applied. Because of this we are considering changing the point system.

Our options include requiring either 5 or all 10 of the core classes before receiving the green or silver pin or giving more points for attending the core classes to encourage attendance. We are also exploring the idea of having another "pin" or "award" when an individual accumulates 400 points. If you or your unit has some input on this subject, please advise your Education Chair and contact Sandy Newsome or Ruth Heuer before the Fall State Board meeting. Thanks to all of you who attended the Education Committee meeting. We appreciate your support and efforts in the field of educating our members and the communities that we live in.

Photo By: Robert Hayden
Friday before the rain came in



Photos by: Bruce DeMott



Rendezvous 2003 T shirts and sweatshirts are still available!

If you missed the chance to pick up a T shirt or sweatshirt at the Rendezvous, you can still order them while supplies last. Mail checks payable to BCHC and size requests to:

Karyn Alamo, 1854 W. Monte Vista Ave., Modesto, CA 95358
(209) 538-3572.

Prices and sizes available:

T shirts: M, L, XL \$12.00
2X & 3X \$14.00

Please add \$1.50 shipping fee for each t-shirt ordered.

Sweatshirts: S, M, L, XL \$25.00
2X & 3X \$27.00

Please add \$2.50 shipping fee for each sweatshirt ordered.

*If you live in the Modesto or Turlock area I can make arrangements to deliver the shirts to you.

Rendezvous 2003

Dutch Oven Cook-Off

by Alice Kampen & Rosemary Reeder



A little rain and wind did not dampen the spirits of the contestants entered in the 2003 Dutch Oven Cook-

Off at the BCHC Rendezvous, it only added a little to the degree of difficulty. Four teams in the Amateur Division and two in the Professional Division were judged on this and a lot more at the Sunday, March 16th Cook-Off.

The Amateur Division teams were: John & Lynn Zylstra, High Sierra Unit; Denise Robinson & Barbara Kelley, Sierra Freepackers; Sandy Hart, Mid Valley Unit; and Debra Mason & Suzannah Cooney, Mid Valley Unit. Professional Division teams were Mike Adams, Kern Sierra Unit and Paul Walthers, Shasta Trinity. With lots of spectators watching, picking up tips, (and tastes at the end of the contest) the contestants worked hard to make their special dish turn out perfectly. Judges Randy Hamill, Les Sammann and Laura Storm watched carefully, keeping an eye on how each team prepared their recipes and worked the ovens. After sampling each dish the judges awarded First Place in the Amateur Division to Denise Robinson and Barbara Kelley with their Premier White Lemon Pound Cake. First Place in the Professional Division was awarded to Paul Walther who served Mini Beef Wellingtons and Keep Warm Brandy Cake.

Many thanks to all the teams who participated, and to the judges for lending their expertise to this great contest. Looking forward to 2004 we hope to compile a BCHC Dutch Oven Cook-Off Cookbook which will contain this and previous years' recipes. So all you closet Dutch Oven cooks, keep your ovens warm and plan on joining us next year!

FIRST PLACE, PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY

From the kitchen of Paul Walther, Shasta Trinity Unit

Mini Beef Wellingtons with Madeira Sauce

Ingredients

Wellingtons:

4 small beef tenderloins, cut 1 inch thick (3 to 4 oz. each)
2 tsp olive oil
½ lb. mushrooms, finely chopped
3 T dry red wine
3 T finely chopped green onions
¼ tsp dried thyme leaves
salt and pepper
6 phyllo dough sheets, defrosted
melted butter
Madeira Sauce:
1 clove garlic
¼ c Madeira (or dry sherry)
2 T melted butter
2 T flour
1 c canned bouillon
4 mushrooms

Instructions

In Dutch oven, heat oil over medium high heat until hot. Add mushrooms, cook and stir until tender. Add wine. Cook 2-3 minutes, or until liquid is evaporated. Stir in green onions, thyme, ¼ tsp salt and 1/8 tsp pepper. Remove from skillet. Cool thoroughly.

Heat same Dutch oven to medium high heat until hot. Place steaks in skillet. Cook 3 minutes, turning once. Steaks will be partially cooked. Do not overcook. Season with salt and pepper, as desired.

On flat surface, layer phyllo dough, brush each sheet thoroughly with melted butter. Cut stacked layers lengthwise in half and then crosswise to make 4 equal portions. Place about 2 T mushroom mixture in center of each portion. Spread mixture to diameter of each steak. Place steaks on mushroom mixture. Bring together all 4 corners of phyllo dough. Twist tightly to close. Lightly brush each with butter, place on greased baking sheet. Bake immediately in a 425 degree Dutch oven, 9-10 minutes or until golden brown. Let stand 5 minutes. Serve immediately with Madeira sauce, if desired.

Madeira Sauce

Rub bottom of Dutch oven with a garlic clove. Sauté 4 mushrooms in 2-3 T butter. Remove mushrooms and set aside. Stir in until blended 2 T of flour. Stir in 1 c of canned bouillon. Bring to boiling point, stirring constantly. Reduce 1 c of above sauce to ¾'s. Then add ¼ c of the wine. Finish with a butter swirl just before serving. Then add another 2 T of Madeira. Pour a small amount on each Wellington. Garnish with the mushrooms. Makes 4 servings.



Dutch Oven Cook-Off contest winners, left to right:
Paul Walther, Shasta Trinity, 1st place Professional Division
Denise Robinson & Barbara Kelley, Sierra Freepackers, 1st place Amateur Division

Keep Warm Brandy Cake

Ingredients

1 c chopped pecans or walnuts
1 18-1/2 oz pkg yellow cake mix
1 3-3/4 oz pkg Jello vanilla instant pudding and pie filling
4 eggs
½ c cold water
½ c oil
½ c good brandy
Glaze:
¼ lb. butter
¼ c water
1 c granulated sugar
½ c brandy

Instructions

Preheat Dutch oven to 325 degrees. Grease and flour 10-inch tube or 12-cup Bundt pan. (Grease and flour well). Sprinkle nuts over the bottom of the pan. Mix all cake ingredients together. Pour batter over nuts. Place Bundt pan in a 14-inch deep Dutch oven and bake for 1 hour at 325 degrees. Glaze:
Melt butter in sauce pan. Stir in water and sugar. Boil 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Stir in brandy.

Invert cake on serving plate. Prick top, drizzle and smooth glaze evenly over top and sides. Allow cake to absorb glaze. Repeat until glaze is used up.

FIRST PLACE, AMATEUR CATEGORY

From the kitchen of Denise Robinson and Barbara Kelley, Sierra Freepacker Unit

Premier White Lemon Pound Cake

Ingredients

1 c vanilla chips or 3 bars (6 oz) premier white baking bars
2-1/2 c all-purpose flour
1 tsp baking powder
½ tsp salt
1 c (2 sticks) butter
1-1/2 c granulated sugar
2 tsp vanilla extract
3 large eggs
3 T grated lemon peel (about 3 medium lemons)
1-1/3 c buttermilk
1 c powdered sugar
3 T fresh lemon juice

Instructions

Start charcoal. Enough for 6 coals on the bottom and 12 coals on the top. Maintain a temperature of 350 degrees. Grease and flour 12-inch Dutch oven. Melt chips in medium saucepan, being careful not to burn. Stir until smooth, cool slightly. Combine flour, baking powder and salt in small bowl. Beat butter, sugar and vanilla extract in large mixing bowl until creamy. Beat eggs in one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in lemon peel and melted chips. Gradually beat in flour mixture alternately with buttermilk. Pour into prepared Dutch oven. Bake for 50-55 minutes or until wooden pick inserted comes out clean. Cool in Dutch oven for 10 minutes. Combine powdered sugar and lemon juice in a small bowl. Make holes in cake with wooden pick; pour half of lemon glaze over cake. Let stand for 5 minutes. Invert onto plate. Make holes in top of cake; pour remaining glaze over cake. Cool completely before serving. Makes 16 servings.

*"If the saddle creaks,
it's not paid for."*

Public Lands / Education News

Giant Sequoia National Monument Management Plan and Draft EIS

After careful review by the Public Lands Committee and input from the Sequoia and the High Sierra Unit, comments on the Giant Sequoia National Monument Management Plan and Draft EIS were forwarded to the US Forest Service on March 17, 2003. We offered our “qualified support” of Alternative 6, the Preferred Alternative, with requested changes and additions. Our comments were lengthy but emphasized the incorporation of the 1995 Trails Plan developed during the Sequoia Forest Plan process into the Monument Management Plan, the development of a historic system of trails (we referenced the recent California Court ruling that “Pre-1976 R.S. 2477 roads are entitled to protection”), and the development of trail head facilities away from wilderness boundaries.

The PLC and the Chair thank the local units for their much-needed participation in the development of our response to this important public lands issue. If you would like to view the comments, please visit the BCHC web site.

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park General Plan and Draft EIR

The Public Lands Committee reviewed comments from the Caballeros del Sol and San Diego Units and the draft response prepared by Barbara Ferguson. We offered our qualified support of Alternative 2 and outlined our concerns with the Plan and the Draft EIR. Our comments were faxed to the Southern Service Center, California Department of Parks and Recreation and followed up with a certified letter.

This Plan has been years in the making and the time allotted for public comment was very limited. The PLC and the Chair extend special thanks to the southern units for their hard work in preparing our comments to this important Plan. You may view our comments on the BCHC web site.

Right to Ride Legislation Update

by Barbara Ferguson

Through Congressman Nunes’ legislative aide, Damon Nelson, we have learned that Congressman Radanovich is preparing legislation for the Right to Ride on Federal lands. Congressman Nunes will co-sponsor the leg. Both Congressman Radanovich and Congressman Nunes have been forwarded a copy of the proposed language discussed at the Public Lands Committee meeting and reported to the Board at the Rendezvous.

In an effort to get national support for this issue, we are hope to get the Right to Ride legislation introduced before the BCHA meeting in April. Jerry Ledbetter will be attending as the BCHC representative and is on the agenda to request support from the BCHA Directors for this legislation.

Wolverton Pack Station Update

by Barbara Ferguson

We have learned from Congressman Nunes’ legislative aide, Damon Nelson, that Congressman Nunes and Congressman Radanovich have written a letter to Director Fran Manila of the US Park Service, Washington Office, requesting that the Wolverton Pack Station “set aside” the decision to close Wolverton Pack Station “pending a decision on the exact location of a new pack station to replace the one at Wolverton.” The Congressmen offered assistance in obtaining funding for infrastructure to accommodate the new location.

WILDERNESS RIDER TRAINING 2003

by Sandy Newsome

The Wilderness Rider Program is a partnership between the Backcountry Horsemen of California, the National Park Service, the USDA Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Wilderness Riders are trained stock users who have made a commitment to educating others about the value of wildlands and the importance of Gentle Use Skills.

Wilderness Riders are mounted volunteers who ride high use areas educating stock users and others about the value of wilderness and the importance of Gentle Use skills. They may also be called upon to monitor trail maintenance needs, maintain trails, conduct on site restoration,

trailhead education, field based Gentle Use instruction and other duties as requested by the agency contact. Wilderness Riders schedule and deliver educational sessions on how to practice Gentle Use skills in or outdoors, and could involve hands on demonstrations, skits, slides, videos, and other multi-media presentation tools. The Wilderness Rider must be able to maintain relationships with the agency partners and community members, schedule their own trips and educational sessions.

The following is a list of requirements for the Wilderness Rider –

- Must be committed to practicing Gentle Use techniques
- Must possess demonstrated skills in public speaking; including the ability to interact with individuals, groups and diverse audiences
- Possess demonstrated skills in riding and stock management in backcountry situations
- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Must provide own riding and pack stock
- Must be accepted into and successfully complete a five day Wilderness Rider training course
- Must annually submit project report forms
- Must perform two mounted field sessions, trailhead education, or backcountry Gentle Use training per year
- Must fulfill two Gentle Use speaking/workshops per year
- Must be able to schedule and deliver workshops on Gentle Use
- Must establish and maintain a working relationship with contacts from the agency partners
- Must attend a refresher course, every two years

The Wilderness Rider selection procedure is as follows-

- Submit Wilderness Rider application at the BCHC Rendezvous (March 14 –16, 2003)

- Be interviewed by the selection committee at the 2003 Rendezvous
- Selection committee reviews applications and calls references
- Wilderness Rider selection committee chooses successful applicants (no more than ten)
- Successful applicants are notified as soon as possible
- If selected must become a member of Backcountry Horsemen of California
- Must pay the \$200.00 fee (includes cost of vest)
- Must complete the Wilderness Rider Training to be held the last full week of June 2003 on the South Fork of the Trinity River in Northern California
- Must be accepted into the Wilderness Rider Program by the training instructors

Instructors for the 2003 course will be Ruthie Heuer, Ken Graves, Barbara Miranda, Sandy Newsome and Peggy Whitaker, assisting as cooks will be Barbara Newsome and Dave Moser. Those that applied and interviewed at the Rendezvous were highly qualified and motivated.

Successful applicants have been notified and further information is being forwarded to them. We all look forward to a fun, educational and rewarding training session in June.

For more information about the Wilderness Rider Program or the application process, please contact either,

Sandy Newsome
5541 E Monte Vista Ave,
Denair, CA 95316,
(209) 667-8599
sanbarnew@aol.com

or,

Ruth Heuer
19991 Road 180,
Strathmore, CA 93267
(559)568-1260
rheuer@lightspeed.net

Education News

FINAL DRAFT - WILDERNESS RIDER CODE OF CONDUCT

In the performance of duty as members of the Wilderness Riders, volunteers should:

1. Be polite at all times when dealing with the public, agency contact and the media;
2. Treat other volunteers, agency employees and other organizations with courtesy and sensitivity;
3. Through proper risk management practices ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience and ability of the individual and educate them as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment;
4. Take the personal initiative to learn, respect, communicate and adhere to the rules of the agency contact.

Personal Behavior

As a Wilderness Rider, to the best of my ability, I agree to:

1. Consistently display high personal standards and project a favorable image of the program;
2. Strive to achieve the highest quality, effectiveness and dignity in both the process and products of volunteer work without promoting self-interests;
3. Refrain from public criticism of fellow volunteers, management committee or users;
4. Abstain from the use of alcohol products while on duty;
5. Not abuse alcohol or drugs;
6. Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of my duties;
7. Avoid harm to others;
8. Be honest and trustworthy;
9. Respect the privacy and opinions of others;
10. Regularly seek ways of increasing professional development and self-awareness;
11. Be passionate about the program and become an advocate in my community.

Volunteers Must:

1. Ensure the safety of the people with whom they work.
2. Ensure that they do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status.
3. Respect the dignity of others; verbal or physical behaviors that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable.

Public Comment

Wilderness Riders are encouraged to comment publicly on matters of fact about which they have personal involvement. This applies particularly to their own volunteer duties. While in uniform and/or

performing volunteer duties they are in effect representatives of the federal land management agencies and the Backcountry Horsemen. As such they should not offer personal opinions or publicly criticize government policies or other organizations and must respect information given in confidence. As interested citizens, Wilderness Riders should feel free to comment orally or in writing on public land management issues, but should do so as citizens, not as representatives of the Wilderness Rider program.

Failure to comply with this code is grounds for dismissal.

Uniform Code

Where and when to wear the vest

The vest is worn ONLY when representing the following organizations: Backcountry Horsemen of California, Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management.

You may ask yourself the following questions to determine whether it is appropriate to wear the vest:

1. Which entity am I representing and are they aware of me representing them?
2. Am I filling out a volunteer report?

Appropriate location of nameplate and volunteer pin.

The Volunteer Pin is placed "over your heart" in the tan part of the vest on the left front side.

The nameplate is placed in the tan part of the vest on the right front side. NO other pins are to be worn on the vest.

Appropriate shirt beneath the vest

White shirt with collar and long sleeves for all speaking engagements (classroom type environment). We prefer white at the Rendezvous.

A complimentary tan or green shirt while in the field or conducting demonstrations with animals.

FSM 1800 - SENIOR, YOUTH AND VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS CHAPTER 1830 - VOLUNTEERS PROGRAM

1834 - PERFORMANCE AND SUPERVISION

1834.1 - Performance

Volunteers shall perform work as described in the agreement and any supplemental description of duties. Responsible Forest Service officials shall ensure adequate supervision of the volunteers. Maintain a record of hours worked. Terminate volunteers if their service is unsatisfactory; however, make a reasonable effort to determine and correct the cause for unsatisfactory service. Only the Forest Service official, who signed the agreement, or a successor or acting, has the authority to terminate an agreement.

1834.2 - Orientation, Training and Safety

Provide each volunteer orientation on Forest Service history, programs, objectives, environmental quality, and public safety, as appropriate.

Also inform the volunteer that financial liability and agreement termination could result from willful disregard or negligence in the use or safeguarding of Government equipment or other property.

Ensure volunteers receive the necessary training to enhance their service. Each volunteer shall receive training in safe practices before and during assigned tasks (FSH 6709.11). Accident reporting for volunteers is the same as for employees.

Volunteers already signed up with the Forest Service may receive firefighting training incidental to their work assignment; however, the Volunteers in the National Forests Act does not authorize recruiting persons solely for the purpose of providing them firefighting training, or in any way using volunteering as a condition of paid employment.

Volunteers who serve 80 hours or more over at least 30 days may be issued the Forest Service volunteer identification card.

1834.3 - Records

Maintain a file for the official records of each volunteer. Regardless of other requirements, the file must contain the following information on each volunteer: the Volunteer agreement, record of hours worked, accomplishments, training received, amount and purpose of monetary expenditures for incidental expenses, medical records, if any, and related correspondence. At the termination of each period of satisfactory service, each volunteer or sponsor may receive a completed Certificate of Appreciation (Form FS-1800-14, Volunteer Certificate of Appreciation in the National Forests; Form FS-1800-14a, Volunteer Certificate of Appreciation in Forestry Research; Form FS-1800-15, Certificate of Appreciation for Volunteer's Sponsor in the National Forest; Form FS-1800-15a, Certificate of Appreciation for Volunteer's Sponsor in Forest Research) for volunteering, along with an official record of types of work accomplished and length of volunteer service.

1835 - VOLUNTEER STATUS AND RECOGNITION

1835.1 - Status of Volunteers

Volunteers need not be citizens of the United States. Anyone may apply for a volunteer position, regardless of citizenship, and the applicant may become a volunteer. Enrollment requirements are the same as for U.S. citizens.

A volunteer shall not have the status of a Federal employee with respect to provisions of law relating to recruitment, employment, compensation, and employee benefits. However, for the purpose of the tort claim provisions of title 28 of the United States Code, a volunteer

shall be considered a Federal employee. For the purpose of 5 U.S.C. 81, subchapter I, which concerns compensation to Federal employees for work injuries, volunteers shall be deemed civil employees of the United States within the meaning of the term "employees," as defined in 5 U.S.C. 8101.

Volunteers shall enjoy the same degree of protection by State and local law enforcement agencies as all members of the general public. In those circumstances where State or local law enforcement officials are not reasonably available, Forest Service officials may, under 36 CFR 261.3c, arrest persons interfering with, threatening, or intimidating a volunteer when performing duties assigned by the Forest Service. In appropriate circumstances, volunteers may also file a criminal complaint under State law.

OPPORTUNITY FOR MOTIVATED INDIVIDUAL TO SERVE ON THE STATE EDUCATION STEERING COMMITTEE

Effective now, there is an opening on the State Education Steering Committee (ESC). The Education Steering Committee consists of six members. Currently serving on the ESC are Vice President of Education Sandy Newsome, Ruth Heuer, Ladd Stokes, Peter Kriger and Alan Cain. They are responsible for guiding and shaping the educational efforts of Backcountry Horsemen of California. They are responsible for the planning, implementation and management of the Wilderness Rider, Gentle Use and Youth Programs, BCHC Publications and Officer – Leadership Training. This committee meets at least twice yearly in addition to the State Education Committee meetings in October and March each year.

If you are the Unit Education Chair or Alternate and would like to become a part of this hard-working and exciting team, give me a call. Sandy Newsome at (209) 667-8599 or email me at: sanbarnew@aol.com
We need your input and help!

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Unit News

Mid Valley Unit

Local members of Backcountry Horsemen help with fence repairs at Pacheco State Park

Tuesday, February 04, 2003

When snow blankets the high country in the Sierra Nevada mountains, skiers replace hikers, campers and equestrians. But for some of the volunteers who help preserve that wilderness, winter doesn't bring a vacation from their work, just a change in location.



Members of the Mid Valley Unit of the Backcountry Horsemen of California made their third annual visit to Pacheco State Park on Jan. 25 to begin work on fence repair at a remote location of the park near the Santa Clara County line.

Using pack horses and mules, the horsemen hauled 250 tee-post, five rolls of barbed wire and sundry fence repair equipment through the park to a distant western boundary.

Working in the dense fog that enveloped the park, loading the posts and equipment, and hauling the hardware to its ultimate destination took most of the day.

According to California State Parks Maintenance Worker Curtis Climer, the group will be back at the park this month to do the actual fence repairs.

Pacheco State Park, the newest in the state's park system, contains about 6,800 acres of land, 2,000 of which is open to hikers, bicyclists and equestrians.

Last winter at the park, the group repaired an equestrian bridge structure across Salt Creek and packed in more than 12 tons of gravel for trail improvements.

According to Bruce De Mott, a director of the Mid Valley Backcountry Horsemen, the local unit is the largest in the state with some 400 members. Statewide, there are more than 4,000 members.

De Mott, a resident of Ripon, said members of the group are from towns throughout northern California. The unit's president, Lloyd Erlandson, is from Hilmar.

The group contributed more than \$103,000 of volunteer services last summer in the high country, primarily in the Emigrant Wilderness area of the Sierra Nevada mountains, De Mott said.

Members of the organization work in the mountains from June until the snow falls in the winter.

The unit has also been working on the Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail, a 400-mile trail that spans from Ebbets Pass to near Martinez, and has helped establish horse camps near lakes Pardee and Comanche.


De Mott, who owned a surveying company and later worked for the state's department of corrections before his retirement, has led pack trips into the high country.

The Backcountry Horsemen collaborate with professional packers, National Forest managers, and other organizations and agencies to "work toward a more harmonious experience in the wilderness," he said.

Much of the group's efforts in the Sierras focuses on trail work including clearing deadfall, installing gates, repairing fences, and other improvement to public land.

"The goal is to preserve the quality and character of the wilderness," De Mott said.

Riders pack in parts and equipment to repair fences at Pacheco State Park.





-DeCarteret-
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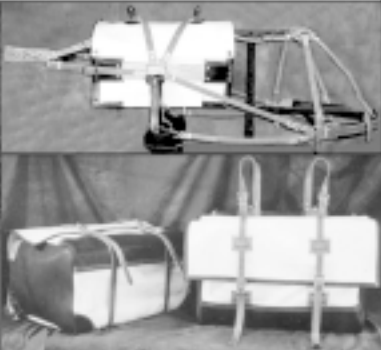
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Unit News



SHILOH AND FOOTHILL REGIONAL PARK MANURE BUNKERS

February 8, 2003
North Bay Unit



airflow for bacteria breakdown. Built with non-toxic CBA environmental safe, pressure treated wood provides assurance that the bunkers will be in use for many years to come. Providing manure rakes and wheelbarrows for easy collection encourages equestrian use. Bunkers show the general public that equestrians can be relied on to keep their own areas clean and neat.

The second bunker was placed in Shiloh Regional Park, at the north end of Santa Rosa. On February 22, a third bunker was built in Crane Creek Regional Park, Rohnert Park and the fourth in Ragle Ranch Regional Park, Sebastopol. Having the compost bunkers in various

Regional Parks should be complimented on their vision.

The need to recycle and reuse are key issues in every aspect of our lives. With 14,000 horses in Sonoma County, horse manure is no exception. Currently manure/compost bunkers can be found in three Regional Parks—and were increased to five by the end of February. Only one other can be found, to date, on the Federal Property under the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers at the Liberty Glen Campground, Lake Sonoma. The Backcountry Horsemen of California, North Bay Unit, placed all of these manure/compost bunkers. Financial assistance was generously provided by a grant from the Bay Area Barns and Trails.

As you may surmise, placing horse manure into a bunker is just the first step in the recycling process. Getting it removed and recycled by gardeners is essential to the bunkers' success. Using the *SonoMax* newsletter and web site to help disseminate the information to the public, signs inside the actual bunker, various newsletter articles, and word of mouth allowed the bunker prototype at Oak Knolls equine parking lot to be so successful that we were asked to repeat the bunkers four more times!

Twenty-two supporters were on hand Saturday, February 08, 2003. We started at Foothill Regional Park in Windsor. The first bunker was built using the "McWilliams Design" with adequate board spacing, which allows



geographic areas in the county allows pick-up of the composted material by residents from many locations. This is what will make the program successful—the gardener, the small backyard farmer, the end user.

We found in Oak Knolls that providing bags for gardeners to haul away composted manure was the key. Nylon mesh-type feed bags were the best. Lawn/leaf bags disintegrate too quickly and paper gets wet with dew and rain. Members are encouraged to save these bags and recycle them at any bunker site.

The day was complete with lunch at the Gazebo picnic area in Shiloh with guitar picking and singing by new member and jazz musician, Ed Weber (currently playing with the Jazz group *Hell Hounds* at Aroma Roasters and several locations in Sonoma) and "vocals" by our own Sam Hemmingson.

Article submitted by Shanda Valladao, North Bay Unit

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Thank you Mid Valley Unit for an exciting Rendezvous 2003!



Photo by: Robert Hayden, BLM Adoption horses

Unit News

WORK PARTY AT CASTLE CRAG

Top of the State Unit packed PCTA volunteers to a work project in Castle Crags Wilderness for a 5-day work project sponsored by the Shasta National Forest. Unit members pre-rode the area to locate a suitable camp site and a route to access the work site. After three rides, a route was selected and a camp was set up and food and kitchen packed in with members packing the workers personal gear and tools. BCHC members included John Lyons, Bill Kleaver, Larry (Cookie) Sturman, Pat and Mida Payne, Mike Bryan and Bruce Paul. These fine folks bailed John Lyons out of one of those projects that sound fine in February but does not always work out in June! The unit trail fund is a little stronger because of these great folks and the hikers really enjoyed the treatment extended to them. We hope this was a positive affect for hiker and horseman alike. This is what Backcountry Horsemen is about: friendship, service, education and keeping our presence known. Thanks for all the help.

Submitted by John Lyons,
President, Top of the State



Photo by: Larry Sturman * Gail Lyons taking picture of 7 Lakes Basin on the PCT. John Lyons on pack mule.



Photo by: John Lyons * Work crew on PCT section "P" between Gumboot Lake and Soapstone Lake.

Top of the State gets recognition for their commitment to trail maintenance.



Article and photo by Lori Sellstrom printed in the Siskiyou Daily News.

MIDA PAYNE RECEIVES PAINTING

Artist, Willo Balfrey left, presented Mida Payne with a painting of the Klamath River at the Christmas party for BCHC. As a fundraiser for Top of the State Unit, Willo donated her time and talent to the lucky winner and will do so again this year. Mida was able to pick out one of her favorite photos and Willo did a pastel painting from this photo. The frame was donated by the Mt. Shasta Gallery and was made from barn wood collected locally. For more information on this year's tickets, call John Lyons, Backcountry Horsemen, Top of the State, President at 530-467-3137.



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The "Round Up"

Welcome New Members!

New members as of 3/15/03, alphabetical by unit:

Antelope Valley

Fred Beahm
Kathy Brink
Stephen & Mary Ann Colf
Lori Didier
David Hardman
Stanley Henderson
Christine Newton
Mary Lynn Scannell
Carl & Andrea Walper

Borrego Valley

Marcia & Berrien Anderson
Diane & Ron Hall
Theresia Hamilton
Lee H. Hayden
Laurie Klein

Eastern Sierra

Forrest Newman

Kern River Valley

Jason Bendlin

Kern Sierra

Debra Heer
Donald & Vicky Roland

Los Padres

Jon & Angeliquea Berg
Bonnie Goller

Debra Heer

Maureen Johnson

Manfred & Geri Mazer

Butch & Donna Newton

David Rigoli

Barbara & John Riley

Nick & Cheryl Tatarian

Mid Valley

Bill & Melanie Ashby
Walter & Evelyn Bell
Craig & Samantha Brooks
Timothy, Tami, Susanna & Benjamin Cooney

Holly Moore

Doug Morgan

Jesse Rogers

George & Carol Steen

Helen Southard

Mojave River

Claude English & Anna

Montague-English

Daniel & Denise Gonzalez

Randy & Teresa Roblero

James & Pamalla Barber

Gail Seymore

North Bay

Rosemarie Beebe

Kathy Differding

Linda Hammer

Midori Morgan

June (Toni) & Robert

Rosenberger

Rhonda & Rich Schram

Ohlone Riders

Renee & David Been

Redshank Riders

Valerie & Jerry Young

Redwood Unit

Pamala Garrick

Dennis & Kristi Lindstrom

Johanna & Randy Nelson

San Diego

Debra Greenfield

San Geronio Pass

Tony & Wendy Orcajo

San Joaquin Sierra

Leroy & Evelyn Alec

Randi & Brett Hofve

Santa Ana River

Priscilla & William Barrett

Mark & Donna Bradley

Susan Gilchrist

Sequoia

Marsha & Jim Anderson

Chris & Lorraine Ketchie

Kent & Lynn Lowry

John & Sandy Mihal

Glen & Jean Owens

Christine Wilson

Shasta Trinity

Jolie Andrews

Heather Bookey

Alex & Margo Fullingim

Colleen Tanenbaum

Sierra Freepackers

Cindy & Louis Antigioni

Ruth & Ed Brady

Larry & Marsha Smith

Bruce & Carole Walter

Sutter Buttes

Lynn Coulson

Top of the State

Richard & Kay McKee

Geri & Bill Newlun

From the Editor...



My family at the Rendezvous. My daughter is looking for more horses. It seems that the one on her brother's hat isn't big enough to ride.



Our day at Rendezvous 2003

A new packer (and T-shirt artist)



A quick lunch in the Dutch Oven Camp

Thank You!

The following members have contributed extra to the organization through their dues. We thank you for your support!

As of March 15, 2003 these are our Benefactor, Patron and Mt. Whitney members:

Benefactors

Jay Barnes
Bay Area Barns & Trailer -
(Barbara Weitz)
Ken & Gerry Bourn
Terry Brown
Ernest & Mary Loo
Burroughs
Joan K. Chitrea
Dan & Judie Clifford
Richard & Dena Cochran
Jackie Conner
Rebecca & Robert Cosh
John & Jenise Cunningham
John C. & Gail Davis
Rien & Lieske Doornenbal
Heidi Furer
Ruth & Grant Gerson
Brian & Susan Getz
Geoffrey & Linda Goldsmith
Thomas & Margaret Greubel
Bruce & Pam Griffin
Craig Gunderson
Susie Harms
Linda & Joel Hayden
Vivian & Harry Heid

Elaine Hill
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-Sta, (Larry & Bridgitte)
Peter & Dede Ladow
Michelle Layne
Elizabeth Liechti
Norman & Dina Livermore
Gregory & Deborah Long
Marty Moorehart
Ginger Moorhouse
Carolyn Mulas
Hank Pierson
Lee & Lisa Pritchard
Rancho CA Horsemen
Roy B. & Sharon Robinette
Sarah & David Schoen

John Schoettler
Shirley Sherwood
Glenn & Bonnie Spence
Forrest Tancer
Jan Whitlow
Joe Wilburn
Rick, Kendal & Mandy
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Jamie Wilson, DVM
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Benefactor Funds are used in a variety of ways to support BCHC's Public Lands activities. Uses of Benefactor Funds include but are not limited to hiring consultants to perform in-depth reviews, financing special studies and reports, and reducing out-of-pocket travel expenses for those who testify at hearings in Sacramento and/or Washington, DC.

A few websites that I've come across and would like to share with you;

www.saddle-fitting.net

Custom saddles and saddle fitting video

www.angelsflightriding.com

Boarding, lessons, training, clinics
Breeding quality Peruvian Paso Horses

If you find any websites that you would like to see mentioned, email them to me at:

news@bchc.com

For the **Summer** edition of The Backcountry News,

please submit all articles to the Editor by:

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Please note the mailing address

below for submissions:

3712 Roseanne Lane

Modesto, CA 95356