

The Backcountry News



Volume 30, Issue 2

The Official Publication of Backcountry Horsemen of California

SPRING 2018

2018 ANNUAL RENDEZVOUS A GREAT SUCCESS!

LOS PADRES UNIT, BCHC BOARD AND MEMBERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE PULL TOGETHER

By Shirley Rasmussen, Rendezvous General Chairman

The Los Padres Unit hosted the 31st Annual BCHC Rendezvous in Paso Robles Equestrian Arena, April 13-15, 2018. Although this event was put together in a very short period of time it was a big success as judged by all the great comments we received in so many areas.

The Los Padres Unit hosted a taco feed Thursday evening for those who arrived early.

Friday started off with the American Legion Hall #50 Color Guard. We were blessed to have them all three days. On Saturday they were joined by Vel Flory, Los Padres Unit, who led the Pledge



of Allegiance and sang the national anthem. Friday was a packed day with the Trail Challenge, horse games, and the wonderful Dutch Oven demo and contests at which the public got to taste and be the judges (tough job). The packing end of the arena was busy with people trying their hands at packing with live mules. The Kids Korral offered lots of fun, educational things to do. Classrooms provided many different learning opportunities including demonstrations of the Bemer used to increase circulation in both humans and animals. The most popular session was the California Highway Patrol representative who came to explain and answer questions about new trailering laws.

Friday evening's caterers treated us to a filling and tasty meal with NO DISHES to wash! After the meal we were entertained by Monte Mills and the Lucky Horsemen Band. Despite being tired, many still got out there and



See RENDEZVOUS, page 6

The Backcountry News

An internal publication of the Backcountry Horsemen of California

Editors· Nancy Vaughn and Carol Jo Hargreaves
news@bchcalifornia.org

Backcountry Horsemen of California Official Website:
www.bchcalifornia.org

Printed by The Manteca Bulletin

Publication Information: The Backcountry News is the official journal of the Backcountry Horsemen of California, Inc., published four times per year. All rights reserved. It is an independent publication with news and information of interest to Backcountry Horsemen members, with an average circulation of approximately 4,000 per issue. Annual subscriptions are \$15.00 for non-members. Nonprofit postage paid at Modesto, CA.

Who is BCHC? The Backcountry Horsemen of California, Inc. is a 501c3 nonprofit organization incorporated in the State of California, March 13, 1990, with a 501(c)4 education foundation established in 2007. The Backcountry Horsemen of California, Inc., reserves the right to refuse any advertisements and/or articles that are inconsistent with the Backcountry Horsemen of California's objectives and purpose statement. Other material will be printed at the Editor's discretion.

Disclaimer: Articles and advertisements that appear in The Backcountry News do not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of BCHC or its officers and members. Nor does publication of said articles and advertisements constitute an endorsement of the views or of the goods or services offered therein that they may express. Accuracy of all material is the sole responsibility of the authors. BCHC is not responsible for unsolicited material of any kind.

Reader Submission: The Backcountry News welcomes reader contributions, event and calendar dates, and Unit news. These will be printed on a space-available basis. Submissions should be sent in a Microsoft Word format to include author and photo credits. Longer articles are subject to edit for space at the discretion of the Editor. Photos may not be returned.

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

Deadline	Publication Date
July 23, 2018	August 2018 Summer
Oct. 15, 2018	Oct. 2018 Fall
Jan. 15, 2019	Jan. 2019 Winter
April 15, 2019	May 2019 Spring

Advertising Rates per Issue: Rates effective January 2012. All ads must be paid in advance.

Number of Issues:	1	2	3	4	Cost per issue
Full Page	\$150.00	\$142.50	\$135.00	\$127.50	
Half Page (h/v)	\$100.00	\$95.00	\$90.00	\$85.00	
Quarter Page (h/v)	\$80.00	\$76.00	\$72.00	\$68.00	
Bus. Card (h/v)	\$25.00	\$23.75	\$22.50	\$21.25	

Advertising: All ads must include all fonts and images used in artwork. Ads must be at a resolution of 300 pixels per inch at the actual size used in the artwork. Mail payment to the BCHC Treasurer. Checks returned from the bank will have a \$25.00 return check fee. No advertising will be accepted from advertisers with outstanding balances. Liability by The Backcountry News shall not exceed the space occupied by the error. Never shall The Backcountry News be liable for any general, special or consequential damages. All claims for adjustments must be made within 30 days of the first publication of said ad.

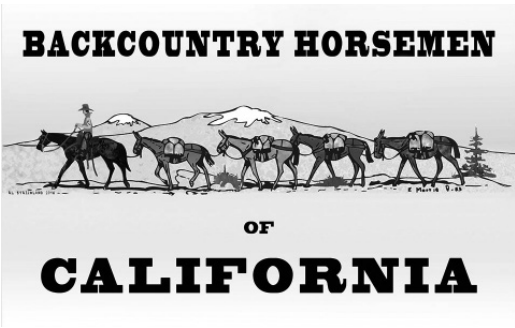
2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Lloyd Erlandson, President · (209) 761-3942 · lloyd.erlandson0@gmail.com
- Ernie Coe, 1st VP · (209) 632-6470 · echorseshoeing@frontiernet.net
- Tammy Bozarth, 2nd VP · (661) 322-2545 · spashiners@yahoo.com
- Susie Patton, Secretary · (760) 764-2850 · bludog46@hughes.net
- Lynn Joiner, Treasurer · Cell: (661) 747-6347 · lynnjoiner7@gmail.com
- Thor Bodtker, Co-VP Public Lands · (415) 328-4545 · thunder.t@hotmail.com
- Troy Patton, Co-VP Public Lands · (760) 764-2850 · bludog46@hughes.net
- Stacy Kuhns, Co-VP Education · (951) 633-1705 · stacykuhns@aol.com
- Tom Firth, Co-VP Education · (951) 763-0405 · lecil_hadley@hotmail.com
- Karen Lopes, VP Youth Educ. · (209) 756-5534 · kdlcowgirl66@gmail.com
- Dennis Serpa, BCHA Nat'l Director · (209) 848-4017 · dmserpa@velociter.net
- Bob Magee, BCHA Nat'l Director · (209) 838-3609 · sanbobs1@live.com
- Alan Hill, Alternate Nat'l Director · (530) 221-8531 · athill2011@gmail.com
- Dennis Serpa, Past President · (209) 848-4017 · dmserpa@velociter.net
- Chip & Linda Herzig, Membership · (775) 463-3634 · chipherzig@gmail.com

2018 STATE COORDINATORS

- Accounting, Weir & Associates · (661) 323-1514
- Annual Meeting, Susie Patton · (760) 764-2850 · bludog46@hughes.net
- Editors, Nancy Vaughn · (626) 622-9801 · news@bchcalifornia.org
Carol Jo Hargreaves · news@bchcalifornia.org
- Insurance, Ernie Coe · (209) 632-6470 · echorseshoeing@frontiernet.net
- Rendezvous General Chairmen · Los Padres Unit (Shirley Rasmussen)
- Saw Coordinator, Dan Horn · (707) 544-4543 · bearstrap@msn.com
- Webmaster, Jacque Murphy · (707) 498-6648 · brennaluett@hotmail.co

For more BCHC information, see our website: bchcalifornia.org



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

As the title of this newsletter says, it's spring and I think it has sprung. Here in the central part of the state we have had 65 degree weather all the way up to 90, and rain. I guess you can call that normal.



Rendezvous is over and what a good time it was. The weather was very cooperative and most everybody I talked to enjoyed themselves. I'll let others talk about all the activities that went on but I must give a very large thank you to the Rendezvous committee, made up of Los Padres Unit folks and their hard-working chair, Shirley

Rasmussen. She took this job on at our fall board meeting and was able to pull it off. Others at the state level who put a lot of time into this event were Lynn Joiner, Stacy Kuhns and Susie Patton. Thank you all for your time and talents.

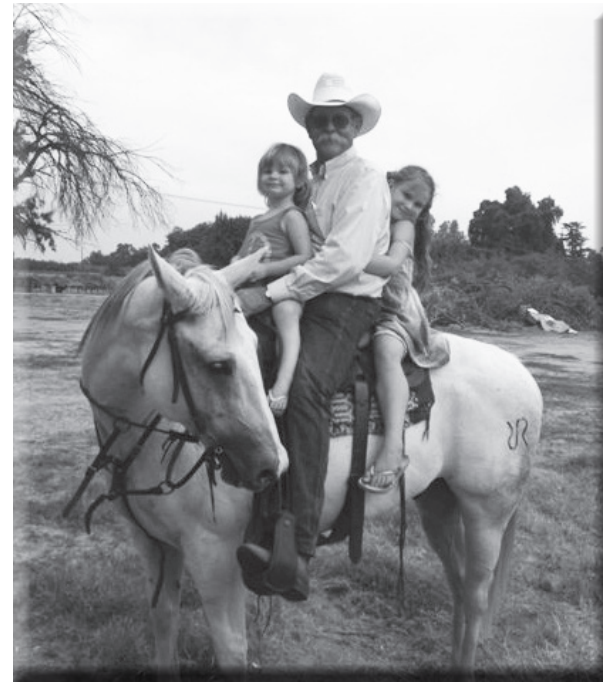
At different times during the Rendezvous a strange animal was seen running around the grounds. Not sure what it was, although it looked like a two-legged mule. I think it was the big head and long ears that made it stand out. It was definitely having a good time and I think we will see it show up at other events. If you didn't see, it I'm sure there will be some pictures in this newsletter someplace. What this animal doesn't have is a name. It is up to all of us to come up with a name for it, this summer. Participate in the contest, details are on page 12.

I'm not sure how we will come out on Rendezvous expenses. Paso Robles has a really nice facility and they know it. Expenses were large and the crowd was small, so I don't think we will be making any money this year. But we carried on the tradition of the annual Rendezvous and I think that means a lot to all our vendors and also to all the agencies BCHC partners with throughout the state. It means a lot that we are dedicated to our mission statement to volunteer and educate all backcountry users. I am looking forward to next year's Rendezvous in Norco.

Membership is always on our minds. BCHC membership has been declining for the last few years and I'm beginning to take it personally. I hope it's not me who is causing the

decline. I do understand that we are not the only ones having a declining membership. Bob Magee just got back from BCHA's Board meeting held in Spokane, Washington. Bob sent out an email blast to all units with information about what others are doing to increase membership. The info is on the BCHA website. Good luck.

Youth camps or special events for youth have been tried by different units around the state and this has made our



insurance carrier very nervous. We have put our heads together in the last few months and our insurance company has written a policy that will cover liability for these events. It is a BCHC policy, not a unit policy.

Each unit that would like to have a youth pack trip or event needs to get a hold of Ernie Coe, BCHC 1st VP/ insurance man, and he can lead you down the right path so that your unit will be covered. It's not a hard thing, it just needs to be done right because it is a little different than our unit policies.

I hope this finds everyone fat and happy from a long winter and that all units have plans for summer work projects. That way, some of the fat can be worked off. Just remember to always start those work projects with a tailgate safety meeting and make sure you have all your PPE, especially if you are going to take pictures and post them on social media. Don't make us look bad.

Happy Trails,
Lloyd

Cell: (209) 761-3942
Email: lloyd.erlandson0@gmail.com

FS & BCHC INTERN PROGRAM



MORRISON SELECTED SUMMER INTERN!

My name is Kristianne Morrison, I have been riding since I was little. I participated in FFA when I was in high school. Some of the programs I did were horse judging, and I also was on the natural resource team for two years and did timed packing competitions through that program. I have volunteered at horse facilities being able to learn new skills and work with many breeds of horses. I can ride English and Western styles and tack. I have worked at a pack station for the past three seasons, and I absolutely enjoy it so much. I would love to have the opportunity to expand my knowledge. We had at least 60 head of stock, between mules and horses. I have taken pack trips ranging from 7,000 ft to 10,000 ft elevation, and as long 12 hours in the saddle. I have experience taking care of the animals as well as the guests that I have taken along. I also have a huge love for native plants and animals and have knowledge about the surrounding area that we pack into. I have a huge passion for the wilderness and the traditional methods of enjoying it and keeping it thriving. Growing up my life has been based on camping, caring for our wilderness and horses, it is something that is a big part of me and I am honored to be able to gain as many skills and knowledge from as many opportunities as I can. It has been always been a goal of mine to be able to work for the Forest Service and I look forward to learning more about BCHC.

Thank you for this opportunity,
Kristianne



Eight GOALS FOR PACKING INTERN

By Dennis Serpa

Backcountry Horsemen of California units contributed financially to support the 2018 Internship with the Forest Service. Forest Service packers from the Pack Stock Center of Excellence, Michael Morse and Lee Roeser, will mentor the Intern in stock management, packing, trail work, equipment and Leave No Trace principles. In addition to the goals they have set for the Intern to achieve through this program, BCHC has also developed goals we expect the Intern to accomplish.

Goals of the FS & BCHC Internship Program:

- * That the Intern will develop the skills and knowledge to help perpetuate the common sense use of horses in America's backcountry and wilderness.
- * That the Intern will develop the skills and knowledge to help work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use; whether as an employee of the agencies, or as a private citizen.
- * That the Intern will learn the proper use of a crosscut saw, as well as other trail maintenance tools.
- * That the Intern will learn/develop the skill of packing; being able to pack various items, using the most efficient hitch for the job.
- * That the Intern will develop the skills and knowledge in order to educate and encourage the wise use of backcountry resources by all visitors of public lands.
- * That the Intern develop an understanding of the historical aspect of pack stock use in the backcountry and wilderness areas as a means for transportation, trail development, and other functions.
- * That the Intern will develop a thorough understanding and appreciation of the principles of LNT, and will be able to lead by example on how to pack stock into the backcountry with minimal impact to the resource.
- * The program will help to continue our relationship-building efforts with the Forest Service.

EDUCATION



OUR VAST PUBLIC LANDS, OWNED EQUALLY BY ALL AMERICANS

Submitted to BCHA website by: Mack Long, Mission Valley BCH, BCH Montana, Education Chairman BCH of America

There has been a lot of attention recently about Public Lands and where America is headed with the management of those lands. Further, anyone who recreates on Americas public lands is often exposed to unfamiliar terms and may not understand the differences. Following is a brief description to give you a working understanding of the differences and what that means to you.

Public Lands Differences

First, what are "Public Lands"? These are the lands that are owned "equally" by all Americans. There are 618 million acres of public land across the U.S., with a significant portion in Alaska and the western U.S. The total U.S. land base is 2.27 billion acres in size. These federal public lands are managed in trust for us, (citizens of the U.S.) by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Park Service and the Wildlife Refuge System for current and future generations.

Front Country Public Lands

Front country Public Lands is not a commonly used term, but is generally any public lands that are relatively accessible by means such as motor vehicles, boats, bicycles, hiking, horseback and aircraft and are usually within a short distance of roads. Generally, these lands provide a multitude of recreational activities. Camping may be in developed or dispersed/undeveloped areas. Logging, grazing and mining are often permitted on these lands as well. These are often highly used areas where it is common to see other people and activities.

Back Country Public Lands

Back country is generally the area beyond what is Front country. Pretty vague, but accurate. There is no specific line or map designation where this starts or ends. Access is more challenging and is usually by a trail or cross-country travel and at a further distance from roads and trail heads. Access may be allowed by the same list as above, but with greater responsibility on the user as trails receive less maintenance. In addition, the safety and welfare of each recreationalist to care for themselves is increased. Camping is usually in dispersed sites. You would expect to see fewer people and activities than in the Front country.

Road-less Areas

Road-less Areas had their beginnings when Primitive Areas were

established in the 1920's. The idea was to preserve some lands in a road-less condition at a time when automobiles and road building was rapidly expanding. As time progressed, Road-less Areas have been challenged legally and politically as to which lands should remain or be opened. Currently, there is about 58 million acres of road-less forests. There is about 380,000 miles of roads on Forest Service lands. In comparison, the Interstate Highway system has about 47,000 miles of road.

Wilderness Areas

Unlike Front country and Backcountry, Wilderness areas are defined and receives that highest level of land protection. While some may get a "wilderness experience" in the Front country or Backcountry or a Park, true Wilderness is a specific geographic area and can only be established or "Designated" by an act of Congress. The Wilderness Act of 1964 put into law what is required to be a "Designated Wilderness". It states how it will be managed and what modes of access or travel are acceptable. The Act requires that it be managed to protect its natural condition, where it is untrammelled by man. It is to maintain its primeval character, shaped by the forces of nature with man's work substantially unnoticeable. The purposes will be to provide solitude, and escape from mechanized use and maintain historic uses.

Three more terms that you may hear. "Recommended Wilderness" is generally lands identified on Forest Plans or agency plans that recommend specific areas for Wilderness Designation by Congress. "Proposed Wilderness" is generally lands that have been submitted to Congress for Wilderness consideration, a step closer than recommended. However, these two terms can mean the same thing depending on the agency. Finally, "Wilderness Study Areas" or WSA's are areas that are inventoried and undergoing the Wilderness review process. They are lands that should be managed to preserve the character or special attributes that made them a WSA

Parks generally have defined geographic areas which are indicated on maps. The recreational uses within a Park are often highly regulated due to a significant amount of visitor use. There are 58 National Parks, and most are associated with a specific national treasure. Interestingly, some iconic National Parks like Yellowstone, Grand Teton and Glacier and others are NOT designated Wilderness. They are "recommended wilderness" but to date, Congress has not given them the additional level of protection.

Parks can be managed by a city, state, private or federal entity. The simplest definition comes from Wikipedia: A "Park" is an area of natural, semi-natural or planted space set aside for human enjoyment and recreation or for the protection of wildlife or natural habitats. It may consist of grassy areas, rocks, soil and trees, but may also contain buildings and other artifacts such as monuments, fountains or playground structures.

The vast majority of our public lands are managed under the multi-use designation that includes both the Front country and Backcountry. This allows for a multitude of activities to be offered on the majority of our Public Lands. Only about 3% of the lower 48 states land base is designated Wilderness.

RENDEZVOUS 2018

RENDEZVOUS, continued from front page

danced and had a great time. As a special treat, Los Padres Unit’s own Julie Beaver played the fiddle with the band.

Saturday we were all bright eyed and bushy tailed and back in place for another fantastic day of events and classes. Clinician Matt Sheridan talked about bits, showed us how he trains with his Five Steps to Better Body Control and his 3 F’s of horsemanship, foundation, fundamentals and follow through.

Packers taught packing, USFS Fire Safety and Safely Protocol and conducted a fun Pack Scramble. There were many more classes to choose from, including Saws, GPS, Leave No Trace, and others. The new Weed class was well attended and generated lots of comments and questions for Davey Rao from UC Davis.

At the Wine, Beer and Cheese Tasting lots of local wines and beer as well as wine and beer from across our great state were presented. What better way to sip, snack and drink than to have the Los Vasqueros Hunt Club Traveling Band play music for us? Everyone enjoyed their playing.

Live and Silent Auctions started after another wonderful dinner and dessert from Angela Thompson, Los Padres Unit, and the group from Edwards LLC.

Sunday brought many of the same activities, just with no music and a shorter day. Cal Poly girls brought three teams for the Pack Scramble. Lou Moore Jacobson brought the colt breaking ladies and horses and explained how the program works. Both groups did a nice job.

I want to thank my “Uber drivers”, John and Mike, who spent many hours giving guests rides around the area and helping everyone they could. Thanks, too, to all the volunteers, vendors and speakers who put in long hours to put on a great event. BCHC couldn’t have done it without YOU.



TRAIL CHALLENGE WINNERS:

<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
Open 1 Linda Wall 2 Barbara Dixon 3 Jody Rumsey	Open 1 Linda Wall 2 Tiffany Beechinor 3 Barbara Dixon	Open 1 Linda Wall 2 Debra McFarree 3 Tiffany Beechinor
Novice 1 Joe Anzini 2 Becky Seitz 3 Dorraine Smith	Novice 1 Becky Seitz 2 Joe Anzini	Novice 1 Becky Seitz 2 Mark Seitz 3 Mark Seitz
Youth 1 Kaitlyn Rumsey	Beginners 1 Elaine Mello	Beginners 1 Elaine Mello 2 Christopher Anguiano
Packing 1 Jamie Wilson 2 Mark Sietz	Packing 1 Jamie Wilson 2 Steve Cozzetto	Packing 1 Jamie Wilson 2 Susane Stadler



RENDEZVOUS 2018

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

By Shirley Rasmussen, Rendezvous General Chairman

BCHC would like to extend a special thank you, to Kerri Bruns, daughter of Los Padres Unit member, Kaye Bruns, for creating the artwork for Rendezvous 2018.



DUTCH OVEN CONTEST

Article by Kaye Bruns, Dutch Oven Contest Chair, Los Padres Unit
Photo by Marcy Watton

Congratulations to the following participants for a great job preparing your Dutch oven dishes for the competition:

John McGray - Los Padres	Karen Gleason - Los Padres
Dan Cotton - Antelope Valley	Kelli Land - Antelope Valley
Denise Robinson - Sierra Freepackers	Brian Reese - Kern Sierra

Our winners were:

Friday: John McGray - main dish and Karen Gleason - dessert
Saturday: Denise Robinson - main dish and Brian Reese - dessert

We had a great turn out for our classes, and with all the cooks we were able to prepare 5-6 different dishes at each of the three daily classes. Thank you to all the judges, you had tough decisions to make!



A big thank you to Lester and Dawn Patterson and Wade Taylor for the use of your chuck wagons.

And finally, a BIG THANK YOU to all the cooks who helped me this year, Fred Mensing, Bill Chaides, Jack Garretson, Lester Patterson, Pam Davis, Dell and Jason Andres and Patricia Vallentyne for your Sour Dough recipes.

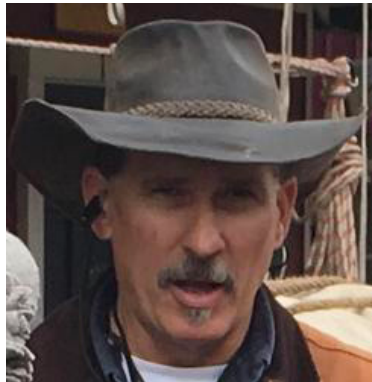


BCHC MEMBER PROFILE

WHAT DID I GET MYSELF INTO???

By Mike Williams, President, Santa Ana River Unit

I've been a member of BCHC-Santa Ana River Unit, Norco, California for about six years. When my wife and I joined, I was working 70-100 hours a week and she was pulling 60-70 hours a week. I made it clear to then unit President Roland Schmitz, that I'd pay my dues and give time when I could. He understood. I'd attend a few meetings, attend outings whenever time allowed, not to mention I was still working for Riverside County Sheriff's Mounted Posse.



As time went on, my wife and I maintained our membership. 2017 was a tough year for us. There were two deaths in our family, a bad accident that sidelined me from working within the heavy transportation industry hauling multi-axle loads I've been handling for 38 years, my wife injuring her knee and requiring immediate surgery, my shoulder surgery and, of course, can't forget my wife graduating and earning her doctorate in Educational Leadership.

All of a sudden I had a little free time. I started attending a few meetings. Then Unit President Thad Chodakauskas asked me to take on the Public Lands position. I accepted. There was no way I could have known what I was getting myself into.

After a few months, I found out that Thad and his wife Carol were moving to Washington soon. I called Thad. He said "yes we are and

I'd like you to take on the, Vice President position". I said to myself, "Self, you're in deep." I went ahead and accepted that position, eyes wide open. I'm now involved in everything: Events, clinics, camp trips, etc. Election time rolls around and, yep, you guessed it, now I'm elected president of this wonderful unit.

The unit elected a great board. All of them are good, hard working people. I scheduled a planning meeting based on a few suggestions from others and that was the start of 2018 and a calendar that could make your head spin.

Since being elected president the Santa Ana River Unit has been very busy. The SARU acquired a unit trailer for hauling gear to events and outings. Elaine Bailey (San Diego Unit) and I devised a calendar that covers the events of the five southern BCHC units. We believe this calendar will keep the other units apprised of what's happening and we all try not to cross plan the larger events. We hosted the Trail Symposium at the Western States Horse Expo, Pomona, where we had 15 Leave No Trace presentations, two live pack clinics and spoke with hundreds of patrons at the event. Let's not forget about the three days of Dutch oven cooking by Bill and Marcia Moser. We had 37 volunteers from five units who worked this three day even. It was a huge success!

Two weeks later we hosted a Camping and Packing Clinic in Norco. Some 30 people showed up for this worthwhile event which featured me speaking on Leave No Trace and highlighting techniques. Mike Lewis from Redshank Riders, demonstrated how to pack up your camp onto a horse or mule. Ray Spence from the San Diego Unit spoke on teaching your saddle stock to stand comfortably while being mounted, and I finished with a talk on the Ten Essentials followed by a Q&A session. Bill and Marcia Moser served a wonderful Dutch oven lunch. What was really wonderful were the members of two other units who volunteered their time to help out with this event. This was not the first time this had happened and we



MEMBER PROFILE, cont.

UNIT NEWS



Mike Williams presenting Leave No Trace principles.

here in the south believe that units participating together in events gives BCHC strength, not to mention it’s just a good time.

Seven members from the SARU attended the 2018 Rendezvous in Paso Robles. Six members went to Big Meadow in May to put up fences. Seven members attended Mule Days in Bishop. We all had a great time at these events and work parties. I personally made a number of contacts on behalf of BCHC.

What’s on the horizon for us? Our next big adventure is a campout and work party at Big Meadow in the Sequoia National Forest from July 1-8, a meadow the SARU adopted more than 20 years ago. We have two fundraisers coming up: Riverside Rancheros Tri-tip Dinner and auction, July 27, and a two-day Trail Clinic and Trail Trial in Phelan, on September 29-30.

We’ve also been working on agreements with San Geronio Wilderness Association, the Angeles National Forest and the county of Riverside for trail maintenance and pack support and, of course, Rendezvous 2019 will be here in Horsetown USA, March 29-31, 2019!

Being the president of the SARU has been exciting. It’s more time consuming than I imagined but being surrounded with good, like-minded folks who care about open space and our trails, makes it worth every minute.



TOP OF THE STATE UNIT:
Bowling Receives Dale Payne Memorial Scholarship

By Penny Wells-Thomas

The Top of the State Unit of the Backcountry Horseman is very pleased to announce that Jessica Bowling is the recipient of the Dale Payne Memorial Scholarship. Jessica has always loved animals and has a steer she will show in FFA this summer. She plans to go to Montana State University to become a veterinarian. She credits her animal science teacher with helping her make the decision to work with animals. We are very proud Jessica received this scholarship and we wish her well in her future plans.



Rendezvous 2018 Sponsors

{special}
THANKS
to our sponsors

Please patronize the following
businesses who generously sponsors
BCHC's 2018 Rendezvous!

Star Milling
Farm Supply Company
BCHC Mother Lode Unit
Atascadero Horsemen's Club
Coast Pipe
Farmers Warehouse
Cal Poly SLO
Kaye Bruns
The Horse Connection
BCHC Antelope Valley Unit
Riding Warehouse
Kris Pimentel

Star Milling Co.®



CAL POLY



Atascadero Horsemen's Club
PO Box 2756
Atascadero, CA 93423-2756

COAST PIPE

3050 Ramada Drive
Paso Robles, Ca 93446
Ph 800.376.8426



**New & Used
Pipe**



**Ag Wires &
Game Fence**



**Hauling
Service**

BCHA: Dedicated to keeping America's trails open for all



BCHA National Board Meeting

By Bob Magee, BCHA National Director

The BCHA National Board Meeting was held this year in Spokane, Washington, April 23-25 and your two National Board, members Dennis Serpa and Bob Magee, attended that meeting. BCHA is organized with an Executive Committee that makes the day-to-day decisions for the operation of the BCHA organizations. On an annual basis, two representatives from each state, designated as National Board members, attend the meeting. All National Board members are asked to volunteer to join one of the many committees of the board to help with what that committee is committed to accomplish. Dennis selected the Marketing and Media committee and Bob selected the Public Lands committee to work with.

The first day of the meeting is to hear different reports on the state of BCHA. Being provided with various information as you might expect

a typical board to see: Correspondence, Presentation of New State Credentials for Wisconsin, the Treasurer's Report and a Budget for the next fiscal year. Headquarters reported on staffing for the management company that is hired by BCHA to run the day-to-day of BCHA. There was a presentation by Ken Carmichael of BCH Washington on how to grow membership and keep members. There is a "BCHWA Membership Development Handbook" available that is a *true treasure* as Dennis Serpa calls it. This handbook has been placed on the BCHA website. If you cannot find it, send an email to bchcemail@gmail.com and I will send you a link to get to the handbook.

There was a resolution regarding youth memberships put forward by the state of Utah and passed by the board. It reads: *Let it be resolved by the Back Country Horsemen of America to create a Non-Voting Youth membership category for youth aged 12 yrs to 25 yrs at a rate of \$10 per annum with all other rights, privileges and obligations as an adult membership.*

All of the board members were divided up into regions. As BCHA has grown, we now have states that have very different needs from others that have been in the organization for a long time. For example, many of these new states do not have federal public lands that are very large or they have no federal lands that are rideable. The board members were charged with discussing how the committees and BCHA staff could help the states and what priorities were needed for the upcoming year. The following was determined to be of top priority:

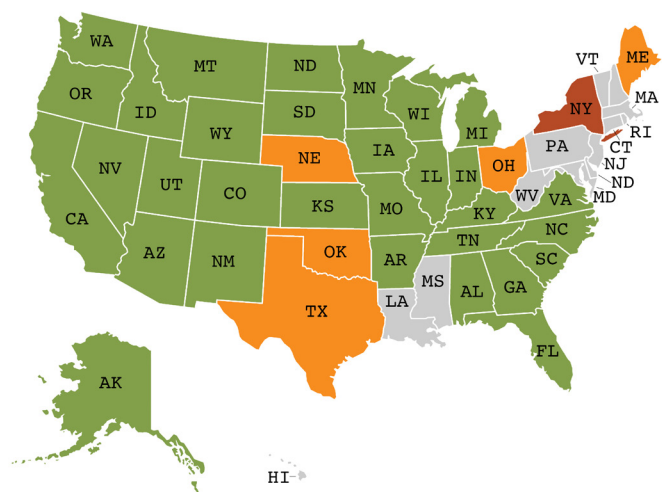
1. The BCHA Mission Statement needs to be at the top of everything we do
2. A monthly alert needs to be sent out to let members know what is going on
3. Develop a phone application for the volunteer hours
4. Improve usability of Website Navigation
5. Create a Contact Matrix for Committees on the website for information on who the contact is and what the committee does

There were many more items to be worked on, these were just of the highest priority.

Elections were held and Freddy Dunn from Utah was re-elected as Chairman as was Darrell Wallace as Vice Chairman.

Overall, I thought the meeting was very well organized and run to determine the needs of the states that BCHA should be addressing. The committee leads and members left the meeting with a list of items to address during the coming year. I look forward to seeing some results for these needed changes coming up.

BCHA Current and Affiliate Members 2018 Potential New Member States



41 Years Strong and Growing

Back Country Horsemen of America®
Keeping Trails Open for Everyone.

RENDEZVOUS 2018



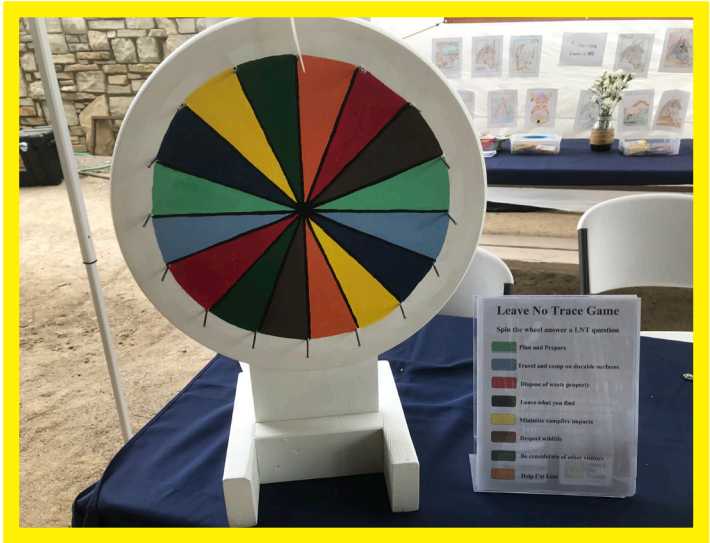
Coloring contest display



Iron mule hitches



Boot Scramble



LNT game



Stick horses



Iron mule and hitching rail

RENDEZVOUS 2018

Kids Corral BCHC Rendezvous 2018

By Tammy Bozarth

I had the most amazing time with the youth at this year's Rendezvous. We offered them a variety of activities to participate in.

The LNT camp was left set up to educate on the seven principles of Leave No Trace. After learning the principles, participants could spin the wheel and answer a T/F question earning a BCHC LNT bracelet.

The Coloring Contest was ongoing for the full three days. Kids and adults of all ages participated.

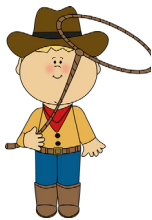
An iron mule and hitching rail were used for hands-on hitches and knots. I learned that there are is a jillion different ways to tie your mule to the hitching post.

The Dummy Calf Roping was a huge hit not only with the kiddos.

The biggest hit was the pool noodle stick horse race. My horse gave me a little trouble going around the barrel but my 3 year-old competitor only beat me by one length.

We also had a Boot Scramble. The competitors put their shoes/boots in a pile at the end of the arena and raced to the them, found their shoes/boots, put them on and raced back. I needed to make the piles a little larger so spectators were asked to donate their shoes and I, too gave up mine. A little mom voice was going through my head, "Don't run around in the dirt with your socks on."

All participants at every activity received a raffle ticket for prizes that were donated by numerous units.



We even had an appearance from the mascot mule that needs a name. The kids submitted some creative entries to open the Name The Mule Mascot Contest.

Thank you to all the units that donated prizes for the events.

- Redwood Unit-David Pritchard for supplying ropes and the dummy and also instructing the roping classes.
- Los Padres Unit-Kaye Bruns for making the stick horses and donating them to the participants.
- Redshank Riders Unit-Donated cowboy hats given to every participant in the roping class. They also donated a beautiful compass, that will be used in future, "Help I'm Lost" and the Map and Compass classes.
- Kern River Valley Unit- For their loan of an ice chest making it possible to have drinks and snacks available for the kids. Also for manning the booth.
- Kern Sierra Unit- Kids Corral banner and miscellaneous prizes.

Thanks to Troy and Susie Patton's granddaughter who graciously loaned us her pink roping dummy. A special thanks to Mike and Norma Kohlbaker for their assistance at the Kids Corral for all three days. We could not have don't it without you.



LNT camp



Mike Kohlbaker, Mother Lode Unit, helps with dummy calf roping

BCHC YOUTH MASCOT CONTESTS

Time for BCHC members to have some fun ! Draw and/or name BCHC Mule Mascot

By Tammy Bozarth



BCHC Mule Mascot Art and Name Contests

The BCHC Youth Program is in need of a mule mascot icon figure. At the February BCHC board of directors, meeting an Art Contest was approved to find a BCHC member artist to create a simple kid-friendly cartoon mule character to lead the way in reaching out to our youth. This character will be used to aid in teaching youth a wide variety of subjects such as LNT principles and packing skills. A mascot costume of this character will be created to be used at public events such as the Rendezvous. In addition, the mascot needs a name so a Name the Mule Mascot Contest is also taking place. The winning artist and mule naming participant will receive acknowledgement in the BCHC newsletter .

The deadline for submissions for the
Summer 2018 EDITION
of the Backcountry News is:

July 23, 2018

Submissions to:
BCHC Editor
news@bchcalifornia.org

BCHC Mule Mascot Art Contest

Criteria: A simple kid-friendly cartoon **mule**.
Submit 3 poses



Pose 1 Example

To be used to illustrate written language in some way.



Pose 2 Example

Full body pose to include pack saddle.

Pose 3 Artist's choice.

BCH members submit artwork to Int@bchcalifornia.org by September 1, 2018

All submissions will be kept anonymous to be judged by the Executive Education Committee.

The winning submissions will become sole property of BCHC. The winner may be asked to add to the submissions for specific poses, this is strictly voluntary.

BCHC Name the Mascot Mule Contest

Submit your entry to Int@bchcalifornia.org by September 1, 2018

Winner will be selected by the Executive Education Committee.

RENDEZVOUS 2018

2017 MAX AND IRENE COCHRAN JOURNALISM AWARDS

By Carol Jo Hargreaves, past editor of The Backcountry News

Thank you for the honor and privilege of judging the unit newsletter contest to determine 2017 recipients of the Max and Irene Cochran Journalism Award.

Backcountry Horsemen of California’s Special Awards Program includes annual recognition of the unit and its editor whose unit newsletter, in the opinion of the judge(s), stands out above all others. Copies of unit newsletters, as published in 2017, were entered for consideration. The long-established criteria by which entries were judged includes: Content (70%), Appearance (20%) and Consistency (10%). To be effective, the newsletter should contain articles of substance on many topics that have appeal to a wide variety of readers. Information should be accurate. Spelling, grammar and sentence structure should be correct. Also considered are frequency of publication and inclusion on the unit’s website.

Using the detailed score sheet implemented and improved through the life of this annual competition, the following unit newsletter editors received certificates for outstanding editorial performance as well as a handsome wooden plaque. A small brass name plaque is also added to the perpetual trophy for the first place winner. That editor and his/her unit keep the perpetual trophy until the next year’s Rendezvous award presentation.

Congratulations, editors! Thank you for the countless hours you spend on what many consider the most important unit job: Communicating with all unit members! You are the glue that keeps



Kathryn Matthews, 1st place winner, MAX AND IRENE COCHRAN JOURNALISM AWARD

2017 Max and Irene Cochran Journalism Award Recipients:

1st place	Top of the State Unit, Sis-Q-Trails	Kathryn Matthews
2nd place	San Joaquin Sierra Unit, Hoof Prints	Carolyn Witt
3rd place	Redshank Riders Unit, Tails from the Trail	Rhonda Strickland

BCHC Thanks 2018 Rendezvous Donors

Egyss Grooming Products
Whitehorse Tack
China Gourmet
Edwards Barn LLC
Easycare
Bridge Sportsmen's Center
Cowboy Magic
Straight Arrow
Natural Trail Trails



UNIT NEWS

TOP OF THE STATE: Playday at Stapleton's

Article and photos by Penny Wells-Thomas

Twenty members of the Backcountry Horsemen Top of the State Unit met May 19 at Michael and Betsy Stapleton's for a fun-filled day of games, a Trail Trial and food. The morning started off with the egg and spoon challenge where each rider, astride their equine, holds a spoon with an egg on it. The riders are asked to move in a circle at a walk holding their egg and spoon out to the side. They are then asked to perform other maneuvers such as reverse direction, trot and canter until only one rider is left with an egg. Our new member, Michelle Machado won that event. Our next game was the bucket race. In this event two riders hold a rope that has a bucket of water strung on it. The riders run to the end of the arena, around a barrel and back to the start. The idea is to return



Passing through the torn blue tarp was easy for this pair

with water in the bucket and to continue be holding your end of the rope. Erica Fruitt and Sandy Mason cinched that event. The next was a three person water balloon relay. In this race, one rider is given a water balloon, runs down to the end of the arena, around a barrel and gives the balloon to rider #2 who also runs down and around the barrel and passes the balloon to rider #3 who runs around the barrel and back across the finish line with the water balloon intact. It is not a game you play if you want to stay dry. Sandy Mason, Kathy Grissom and Pam Wells won this event. The final game was my version of an extreme cowboy race but because we are mostly (speaking personally) of the geriatric crowd, I tamed it down so we would all stay mounted. It was a timed event but I stressed the importance of not scattering all the obstacles. I had seven obstacles in all and every horse and mule did great. Janice Rushton was the winner of that event.

We took a lunch break and after that we proceeded on to the



This pair negotiated the walk-overs without a problem

guided Trail Trial our Kelly York set up for us. Kelly is a senior judge for CSHA so she knows her stuff and we wanted to take advantage of her knowledge.

The Stapletons have 60 beautiful acres in Scott Valley and Kelly set up six obstacles around this acreage. She lead the riders on each obstacle to help them maneuver each one in the correct manner.



PACIFIC CREST UNIT: Attended 2018 Horse Expo and Rendezvous

By Jennifer Sponsler

BCHC Pacific Crest Unit sent two members to the Horse Expo in March, Joel and Jennifer Sponsler. They helped out at the BCHC information booth.

Nancy Vaughn, appointed Director of the unit attended the Board of Director's Meeting in Santa Nella and brought back much info and enthusiasm to our April Meeting.

Nancy Vaughn and Victor Penner attended the Rendezvous 2018 in Paso Robles. They came back with glowing reports and many ideas for the 2019 Rendezvous. Nancy volunteered at the main refreshment booth and helped with the raffle on Saturday.

The Pacific Crest Unit is working on its web site which will be up and available within the month. The Unit is also planning a horse event in the early fall and a CPR class this summer.

UNIT NEWS

SIERRA FREEPACKERS UNIT: Earns Awards at Rendezvous

By Mary Odell

Sierra Freepackers Unit attended BCHC annual Rendezvous in Paso Robles. Along with volunteering and attending many classes and events this year the unit earned several awards:

- 1. Per Capita Volunteer Hours: Unit Award
- 2. Dutch Oven Cooking Contest: Denise Robinson
- 3. Top Hand for our unit: Patricia Vallentyne
- 4. Manty Decorating Contest: Unit Award (Doti Perkowski)
- 5. Education Award: Unit Award

President Cathy Miller taught a Leave NO Trace class on Minimizing Campfire Impact. Patricia Vallentyne taught a class on sour dough starters. Other members volunteered during a Trail Challenge event.

Sierra Freepackers attended Cross Cut and Chain Saw Clinics, Packing Clinics, Dutch Oven Cooking Classes, Packing Competitions and Equestrian Training Clinics.

Both Friday and Saturday night we enjoyed great dinners with fantastic music. Throughout the event, vendors were available for us to purchase an assortment of items. Not only did we have a fun-filled weekend but it was educational as well. We look forward to next year's Rendezvous, to be held in Norco.



Laurie Wagoner and Denise Robinson proudly displayed Sierra Freepackers's mantee



Cathy Miller presented a lecture on "Minimize Campfire Impacts"



Cathy Miller accepted the Unit Education Award for Sierra Freepackers



Teens enjoyed a saw class presented by Dave Moser



Cathy Miller presented Patricia Vallentyne with unit Top Hand Award

UNIT NEWS

REDWOOD UNIT: Trail Challenge

By David Pritchard

March 11th brought excitement to the Humboldt County Fair Grounds in Ferndale, CA when the Redwood Unit put on a Trail Challenge in the indoor arena bringing 42 riders. Planning for the event took three different meetings to set up the dozen different obstacles. There was everything from sounds of running water to the sounds of wild animals, hides from a bear and a mountain lion. A camp site set up with a tent that ruffled with a fan inside and a campfire that put out lots of smoke.

To start out the Challenge riders had to go over two crossed logs surrounded by wild turkey decoys, then through a trail covered in downed branches. Next was the branch that had to be drug by a rope down the trail. Then on to the campsite that was set up to challenge the riders.

The Redwood forest down at the end of the arena had a dense vegetation of redwoods with the bear and mountain



lion hide which spooked quite a few horses. Then down to the dried bamboo trail to cross which crunched noisily as the horse proceeded though. Next the small "mountain" with a hiker, wearing a huge backpack and holding an unfolded map, asking directions.

The true challenge was to get by the friendliest llama. She would come out and meet each of the riders as they came by. Many even came back later to meet and greet the llama again. The llama and her friends at home are used for packing into the backcountry.

At the end of the Trail was a leave no trace obstacle. An area was set up with all kinds of plastic bottles and aluminum cans. The object was to get off your horse on the far side and get a plastic bag and pick up at least 5 objects, put them in the bag and hang it over the saddle horn (if you had one) and walk through the rest of the garbage that was left behind to give an additional challenge. A good time was had by all.

The Redwood Unit has been asked to hold this event over both days of a weekend next year since it was so well received. We will see how this works in our plans for our upcoming calendar.



MAIL YOUR BCHC MEMBERSHIPS TO:
BCHC Membership
1280 State Rt. 208,
Yerington, NV 89447

UNIT NEWS

MOTHER LODE UNIT: Attends American Endurance Ride Conference

By Lucy Badenhoop

On March 9 and 10, the American Endurance Ride Conference held its 2018 Convention at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno NV. The Mother Lode Unit (MLU) once again attended and represented the Back Country Horsemen of California (BCHC) by setting up and manning a booth to promote membership and Leave No Trace principles.

The convention offered a chance to network with equestrians from all over the continent. Not all visitors to the booth were logged, but the 58 that stopped and visited were tallied

33 California	2 Canada	1 Florida
1 Georgia	1 Indiana	1 Massachusetts
1 Michigan	2 Montana	1 New Mexico
4 Nevada	1 New York	3 Oregon
2 Texas	1 Utah	1 Vermont
2 Washington	1 Wisconsin	

After explaining about the Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) mission to preserve public access to public lands, especially the use of pack stock, visitors were shown the map of which states already have a state affiliate with one or more units. All equestrians were given plastic saddle pack tags depicting the seven Leave No Trace Principles.

Non-Californians were encouraged to become a member in support the BCHA lobbyist in Washington DC, even if they were unable to attend meetings or volunteer for work parties. Californians were offered an application and shown the state map of units to aid in selecting one.



The two MLU “grab-n-go” booths (including table & chair, feather flag, display racks, folding cart, etc.) were all purchased with grant funds from the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance (NWSA). The grant also provided funding to purchase the saddle pack tags and banners for Leave No Trace

amazon smile

Prime

amazon smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

- Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to **Backcountry Horsemen Education Foundation of America** whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same Amazon Prime benefits.

The deadline for submissions for the
SUMMER 2018 EDITION
of the Backcountry News is:

JULY 23, 2018

Submissions to:
BCHC Editor
news@bchcalifornia.org

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL INDIVIDUALS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Benefactor Funds are used in a variety of ways to support BCHC’s Public Lands activities. Uses of Benefactor Funds may 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 state and federal hearings.

BENEFACTOR (\$100)

Antelope Valley Eastern Sierra	Doris and Tim Bartholomew Bill Carter Troy and Susie Patton James B. and Judy L. Waggoner
High Sierra	Ruth Gerson Nancy Hamill Jacob Hamstra
Kern Sierra	Brad Allen of Rosedale Farrier Supply Robert L. Anderson Boyce ‘Buzz’ R. and Joann F. Caffee Mylon Filkins, DVM and Pat Randy and Debbie Gafner Larry and Pat Mumford
Los Padres	Robin and Reid Cederlof William Chaides and Nancy Kimmell Eve Devine, Sean, Sarah and Jacob Devine James McGarry Russ Rantz Kathleen L. Redden Sarah Rivers
Mid Valley	Tony and Karyn Alamo Jay and Elizabeth Barnes Gary A. and Michelle L. Cain Rien and Lieske Doornenbal Carol Jo Hargreaves and Larry Schneider Rian Hudson, Rylee Gouvea & Rebecca, Regen Hudson John V. Marshall Jennifer Marshall MID VALLEY UNIT Dan and Toni Peterson
Mother Lode Redshank Riders Redwood	Action Coalition Ron and Korky Robertson Maris Hawkins Darrel and Carole Polasek
San Diego	David Roy and Pamela Chevallier Walt J. and Suzie Kirkwood Sterling Wolfe

San Joaquin Sierra	John and Jenise Cunningham Fred and Suzanne Gleason Larry Nishma, Knapp-Yosemite Trls Pk Sta Stephen and Jill Naylor
Sequoia	Werner Ansorge and Jeanette Woods Ansorge Kathryn C. Bennetthill and John E. Bennett Steve Ladrigan Jamie Wilson, DVM Larry and Jody Young
Shasta Trinity	Lyle and Lauren Charter Joe R. Wilburn
Sutter Buttes	Corky Layne Ulla Park
Top Of The State	Rebecca Richman

PATRON (\$250)

High Sierra Los Padres Mid Valley	Richard and Dena Cochran Otis Calef and Beth Brockman, DVM Lloyd and Susan Erlandson Dennis M. and Loretta Serpa
Mother Lode Redshank Riders Sequoia	Timothy and Michaela Durbin Kenneth and Allison Renck Jim and Pat Holly

MT. WHITNEY (\$500)

Eastern Sierra High Sierra Mid Valley	Sarah C. Sheehan Karl and Trish Pendegraft Terri Arington Christine Kaplan
Shasta Trinity	Dean and Laura Angelides

WANT TO START A NEW UNIT?

If there is no unit in your area and you are interested in starting one, contact BCHC Secretary Susie Patton for more information. bludog46@gmail.com

GoodDining

You Dine. We Give!

Dining to Support Back Country Horsemen of America - BCHA
Your Supporters Can Earn Up To 6% When They Dine

www.goodsearch.com



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US!

These new members have joined BCHC between
February 23, 2018 and May 21, 2018
THANK YOU NEW MEMBERS
We look forward to meeting you!!

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Antelope Valley | Rebecca Hernandez |
| High Country | Paula Meurer |
| High Sierra | Nancy Reed |
| Lake-Mendo | Gary Allen |
| | Debbie Grinols |
| Los Padres | John Bendall |
| | Teresa Wenzel |
| Mid Valley | Rich Casey |
| | Jessamy German |
| | Nannette Hatch |
| | Lorna Moffat |
| Mother Lode | Teresa Howenstine |
| | John Kim |
| | Mary Lundin |
| | Amy Mann |
| | Stacy Medich |
| | Frank Moreno |
| | Kaitlin Raven |
| | Carol Salci |
| | Kelly Walton |
| | Alicia Ware |
| North Bay | Robert Hoerger |
| Redshank Riders | Renee Aberle |
| | Sharon Hansen |
| | Kerry Manos |
| | Michelle Robinson |
| Redwood | Tammy Russell |
| | Debbie Grinols |
| | Shawnee Hofeldt |
| | Holly Nash |
| | Julianna Olate |
| San Diego | Bill O'Brien |
| | John P. Rowe |
| San Joaquin Sierra | Bob Schwoerer |
| Santa Ana River | Tina Madewell |
| | James Phillips |
| Shasta Trinity | Luke Pearson |
| | Marietta Pellicano |
| | Susan Smith |
| | JT Zulliger |
| Sierra Freepackers | Mary Darlene Theodore |
| Top of the State | Michele Machado |
| | Dan Petit |

THE BCHC EDUCATION FUND IS A 501(c)3 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

A donation in the amount of your choice is tax deductible. You can now donate easily and quickly, using a major credit card or PayPal. Simply go to the BCHC website (bchcalifornia.org), Scroll down to the bottom of any page, press the DONATE button and help us in our many efforts. **THANK YOU!**

SAVE TIME AND MONEY BY SHOPPING ONLINE!

Earn **cash back** while shopping from home! Search for deals such as free shipping, instant savings, coupons, and more by visiting www.zamzuu.com/bchc

Some of the key features you'll find on the BCHC shopping website include:

Apparel and Accessories, Automotive, Electronics, Health and Beauty, Home and Garden, Movies, Music and Entertainment

The Ultimate Shopping Experience!

Please help to make this exciting new program a success for the Backcountry Horsemen of California!



Start shopping on-line at:
www.zamzuu.com/bchc

BCHC Units Around the State

ANTELOPE VALLEY

PO Box 84
Pearblossom, CA 93553
www.bchc-avunit.org
Marcy Watton
(661) 878-1791
HorsingRound@aol.com

EASTERN SIERRA

PO Box 157
Olancho, CA 93549
Cynthia McCarthy
(760) 873-4939
cynthia_mccarthy@swbell.net

HIGH COUNTRY

PO Box 161
Milford, CA 96121
Sandy Jansen
(530) 253-3064
sandyjojansen@frontiernet.net

HIGH SIERRA

PO Box 33
Exeter, CA 93221
www.highsierraunit.org
Dan Baumgardner
(559) 334-7731
danbdrathorse@yahoo.com

KERN RIVER VALLEY

PO Box 2179
Lake Isabella, CA 93240
Mike Hughes
(760) 223-0608
4HRanch@earthlink.net

KERN SIERRA

16347 Stephenie Rd
Bakersfield, CA 93314-9669
Sylvia Chavez
(661) 549-8811
cowsnhorses02@yahoo.com

LAKE-MENDO

6980 Potter Valley Rd
Ukiah, CA 95482
Don Bone
(707) 743-2663
bonesmules@yahoo.com

LOS PADRES

606 S. Hart Dr.
Santa Maria, CA 93454
www.bchc-lpunit.org
Brenda Mills
(805) 461-3585
brendadmills@hotmail.com

MID VALLEY

PO Box 1709
Modesto, CA 95353
www.bchcmidvalley.org
Michael King
(209) 606-8323
mickngig@sbcglobal.net

MOTHER LODGE

PO Box 702
North Highlands, CA 95660
Randy Hackbarth
(530) 626-0571
trlyrder@pacbell.net

NORTH BAY

PO Box 9435
Santa Rosa Ca. 95405
www.northbayunit.com
Thor Bodtker
(415) 328-4545
thundert@hotmail.com

PACIFIC CREST

PO Box 290786
Phelan, CA 92329
Jennifer Sponsler
(760) 868-1588
jnjspon@aol.com

REDSHANK RIDERS

PO Box 383
Aguanga, CA 92536-0383
www.redshankriders.com
Mike Lewis
(951) 760-9255
mike@stumblinlranch.com

REDWOOD

PO Box 6023
Eureka, CA 95502-6023
www.redwoodunit.com
Carole Polasek
(707) 786-9637
Cell: (707) 599-8021
muleride15@gmail.com

SAN DIEGO

PO Box 833
Descanso, CA 91916.
www.bchcsd.com
Martin Jorgensen
(619) 307-0276
president@bchcsd.com

SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA

PO Box 25693
Fresno, CA 93729-5693
www.bchcsjsu.org.
Duane Peverill
(559) 908-3138
wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net

SANTA ANA RIVER

PO Box 306
Norco, CA 92860
www.bchcsaru.org
Mike Williams
(951) 340-1789
socalhorsemn@yahoo.com

SEQUOIA

PO Box 456
Springville, CA 93265-0579
www.bchc-sequoia.org
Gail Inman
(559) 539-2260
president@bchc-sequoia.org

SHASTA TRINITY

16900 C Rd
Cottonwood, CA 96022
www.bchcshastatrinity.org
Larry Shuman
(530) 527-8907
lshuman62@gmail.com

SIERRA FREEPACKERS

PO Box 64
Oakhurst, CA 93644-0064
www.sierrafreepackers.com
Cathy Miller
(559) 683-8099
mlrmob10@gmail.com

SUTTER BUTTES

4435 Woodrose Dr
Butte Valley, CA 95965
Bob Gage
(530) 521-7369
bobgage@wildblue.net

TOP OF THE STATE

PO Box 461
Etna, CA 96027-0461
www.bchc-tos.com
Ed Matthews
(530) 842-5872
hereinyreka@nctv.com



Questions? Membership Matters

BCHC Membership Coordinators are
Chip and Linda Herzig.

They will be happy to address your
questions or concerns.

Chip and Linda may be reached Monday
through Friday.

By mail: BCHC Membership
1280 State Rt 208
Yerington NV 89447

Email: membership@bchcalifornia.org

Phone: (775) 463-3634

Planning a Trip? Why not use:

**[www.ytbtravel.com/
bchc](http://www.ytbtravel.com/bchc)**

- You will find the same airlines, hotels, rental cars and cruises as on other travel websites!
- You'll get great travel prices!
- Each time you book travel, a portion of the travel commissions will go to support BCHC!

BCH
GETAWAY

**BCHC
EARNS 60%
OF THE COMMISSIONS!**

It's that simple!

UNIT NEWS

SIERRA FREEPACKERS UNIT: Mustang Matt Balanced Horsemanship Clinic

By Sharon Seslowe

The Sierra Freepackers, a local Backcountry Horsemen of California unit, together with the YLP Equestrian Center in Coarsegold proudly hosted Mustang Matt. Mustang Matt is a clinician who emphasizes trust, respect and balanced horsemanship and, boy, did he deliver! The weather couldn't have been nicer, the footing in the arena was excellent, lunch was delicious, and the five participants and couple dozen auditors were all treated to an amazing day of insight and horsemanship. Not a lot of folks know who Mustang Matt is, but as he travels throughout the state with his trusty steed Diesel, folks are learning about him and telling their friends. He's an honest horseman treating the needs of each rider and of each horse with skill and understanding and he's able to communicate in a way that both animal and human can quickly understand. The group included a 2-year-old quarter horse, some mature mustangs, a Montana breed mountain horse and a Paso Fino. The range of issues Matt addressed was from the unbroken unhandled horse, the started but not ridden horse, the spooky horse and the spooked rider. You know that moment when you succeed in working with your horse and you both know you are moving forward in a positive direction? I saw that happen for all the animals and participants. I think everyone gleaned a few nuggets and found ways to help their horses become better partners. Yup, even when the mustang kicked Matt's saddle off the fence (was that before or after she tried to kick him in the head?), he never lost focus and helped her sort out the easy way to the sweet spot. Now that's horsemanship. Thank you, Mustang Matt and a big thank you to YLP Equestrian Center for a wonderful day!

