### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

President's Message Pg 3
Nor-Cal 50<sup>th</sup> Wilderness Celebration Pg 11
2014 Rendezvous Photos Pg 14-15
Unit News Pg 16
Membership Application Pg 17

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

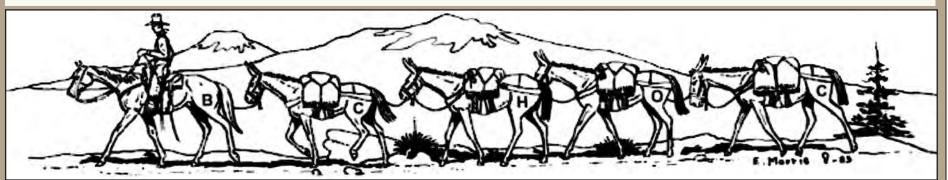
#### **BCHC**

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA 13061 Rosedale Hwy Suite G, Box 217 Bakersfield, CA 93314

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT Organization U.S. Postage PAID Manteca, CA 95336 No. 43

# The Backcountry News

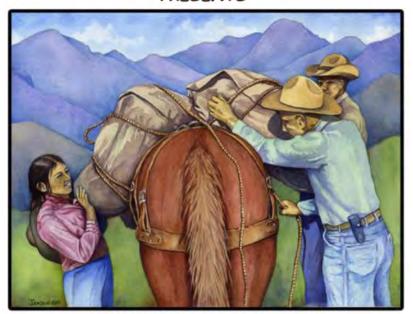


Volume 25, Issue 1

The Official Publication of Backcountry Horsemen of California

**WINTER 2015** 

#### BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA PRESENTS



Packing Our Youth Into The Future
THE 28<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RENDEZVOUS

MARCH 13 – 15, 2015 CALAVERAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

BCHC's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Rendezvous will be showcased at the Calaveras County Fairgrounds (also known as Frogtown Fair), March 13, 14 and 15, 2015. Located between Yosemite and Lake Tahoe, the fairground is South of Historic Angels Camp and North of Sonora on scenic, state highway 49.

This year's theme is "Packing Our Youth into the Future", and we are looking forward to having a full program of kid's activities on Saturday and Sunday. From leather classes to packing classes, with horse painting and coloring contests inter-mixed, we will educate and entertain the younger folks.

The older folks will find a lot of the traditional activities; LNT Classes; Trail Challenge; Wine, Beer and Cheese Tasting; BLM Adoptions; and Dutch Oven Cooking. Educational trainings and seminars will cover such topics as equine health care, nutrition, safety, saddle fitting, and pack demonstrations. The Western Art show will feature hand-made leather and silver pieces to include a gun belt and holster, a knife sheath, and spurs. The Trail Challenge will be an obstacle course competition that tests the skills of both the horse and the rider.

Both Jerry Tindell and JoDe Collins will be doing clinics. We'll have a Large Animal Rescue Demonstration, a Pack Scramble, and much, much, more.

Following dinner on Friday night, there will be a concert by Dave Stamey. Dave is a nationally acclaimed cowboy entertainer, whose music is described as "a celebration of shared heritage, an appreciation of the West as both a place and a state of mind".

Watch for the postcard letting you know when the Registration Packets are ready and be sure to get yours in early. You don't want to miss it!!

# The Backcountry News

An internal publication of the Backcountry Horsemen of California

Editor · Rhonda Strickland
Menifee, California

(951) 951-522-8757

Email: news@bchcalifornia.org or BCHC.News@gmail.com

Backcountry Horsemen of California Official Website:

www.bchcalifornia.org

Printed by The Manteca Bulletin and distributed by

The Oakdale Leader

<u>Publication Information:</u> The Backcountry News is the official journal of the Backcountry Horsemen of California, Inc., published three 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 Manteca, CA.

Who is BCHC? The Backcountry Horsemen of California, Inc. is a 501c4 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.

<u>Disclaimer:</u> 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.

<u>Reader Submission:</u> The Backcountry News welcomes reader contributions, event and calendar dates, and Unit news. These will be printed on a space-available basis. Submissions may be sent on disk in a Microsoft Word format, emailed or sent by regular mail. Longer articles are subject to edit for space at the discretion of the Editor. Photos may not be returned.

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

Dea	41	:	_
Dea	ш	m	e

April 17, 2015 August 17, 2015 December 18, 2015

#### **Publication Date**

May 2015 - Spring/Summer September 2015 - Fall January 2016 - Winter

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

 Number of Issues:
 1
 2
 3

 Full Page
 \$150.00
 \$142.50
 \$135.00

 Half Page (h/v)
 \$100.00
 \$95.00
 \$90.00

 Quarter Page (h/v)
 \$80.00
 \$76.00
 \$72.00

 Bus. Card (h/v)
 \$23.75
 \$22.50



Cost per Issue

**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.

### **2014 Executive Committee**

#### President

Richard Waller • (805) 489-8885 • homeranch@gmail.com

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Lloyd Erlandson • (209) 632-6470 • Lloyd.Erlandson0@gmail.com

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Stacy Kuhns • (909) 633-1705 • stacykuhns@aol.com

#### Secretary

Kaye Bruns • (661) 803-5075 • kowgrl@charter.net

#### **Treasurer**

Lynn Joiner • (661) 747-6347 • lynnjoiner 7@gmail.com

#### **Co-Vice Presidents of Public Lands**

Thor Bodtker • (415) 328-4545 • <a href="mailto:thunder.t@hotmail.com">thunder.t@hotmail.com</a> Susan Patton • (760) 764-2850 • <a href="mailto:bludog60@hughes.net">bludog60@hughes.net</a>

#### Vice Presidents of Education

Dan Horn • (707) 544-4543 • <u>bearstrap@msn.com</u> Denise Robinson • (559) 877-3532 • robnden@netptc.net

#### **BCHA Executive Director/Chairman**

Jim McGarvey • (706) 669-1015 ExecDirector@backcountryhorse.com

#### **BCHA National Directors**

Ann Lange • (760) 378-2113 • kvvet@onemain.com Pete Kriger • (909) 910-4619 • pkrigerjr@yahoo.com

#### **BCHA Alternate Director**

Dan Clifford • (619) 659-3038 • bigeasycowboy@mac.com

### **2014 State Coordinators**

#### Accounting

Weir and Associates • (661) 323-1514

#### **Annual Meeting**

Kaye Bruns • (661) 803-5075 • kowgrl@charter.net

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Rhonda Strickland • (951) 522-8757 • news@bchcalifornia.org

#### Insurance

Lloyd Erlandson • (209) 632-6470 • Lloyd.Erlandson0@gmail.com

#### Membership

Chip and Linda Herzig • (775) 436-3634 • membership@bchcalifornia.org

#### **Rendezvous General Chairmen**

Lloyd Erlandson • (209) 632-6470 • Lloyd.Erlandson0@gmail.com Mike Kohlbaker • (916) 214-6505 • 4horsen@sbcglobal.net

#### **BCHC Co-Youth Coordinators**

Jacque Murphy • (707) 498-6648 • brennaluet@hotmail.com Mary Odell • (559) 658-7563 • modell@sti.net

#### **Web Coordinator**

Jacque Murphy • (707) 498-6648 • brennaluet@hotmail.com

# President's Page



Richard Waller with mustang "Jeffers" and pack mule "Abbey

In my barn are various items of leather tack, and a big jar of leather conditioner. The days are short and the nights are long. So, it's a perfect time to combine those items; put the conditioner on the leather to preserve and protect it. This is a good corollation to our job as BCHC members; to preserve and protect equestrian use on our public lands.

Here are a few statistics: In California there are millions of bicyclists, and

hikers and only about 3,000 members of Backcountry Horsemen. If we put a weight on these user groups by loading bicyclists and hikers in one pannier and backcountry horsemen in another we and then put those panniers on a sawbuck or on a mule, that mule would fall over sideways.

Consider this: Private stock use in Sequoia Kings Canyon National Parks has declined 58% in the past 40 years. Only 2% of all overnight visitations in SEKI are private stock users.

I reckon those statistics are similar throughout our public lands. It is hard for land managers to consider stock users a significant group with such insignificant numbers. Is stock use on our public lands just an antiquated leftover appendage from an earlier time? After all, horses and mules are no longer used in any significant numbers in farming, or transportation, or even the military. Are we clinging to an outmoded form of recreation like birch bark canoes, or zeppelins? Is stock use in wilderness on its way to extinction like the dodo bird?

If not, what can we do to insure that backcountry horse use remains popular and viable? This is a question that BCH chapters and units across the country have pondered. It is a question that BCHA has pondered. The easy answer is to increase the numbers of backcountry stock users. The hard answer is how?

Backcountry Horsemen of America has, within their strategic plan (http://www.backcountryhorse.com/about/BCHAStrategicPlan/) listed goals and objectives for reaching out to young people. The strategies are listed below:

**Strategies:** Coordination with conservation corps and youth groups, United States Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management to leverage opportunities to provide outdoor and Wilderness experiences

- Work with other youth groups, including but not limited to, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of America, Future Farmers of America, 4-H, Northwest Youth Corps, Student Conservation Education Association
- Host campouts, work parties, trail rides, and school events for the youth of America
- Educate young people and their parents about gentle use of the land and protection of the Wilderness
- Teach clinics on how to pack and ride safely

We must initiate these programs at the unit level; I see FFA and 4H as particularly

fertile ground for outreach. In the Fall 2014 BCHA newsletter page 2 there is a great article on BCH Montana folks working with high school students. More programs like this need to be implemented. By doing so, they will go a long way toward insuring the future of BCHC and stock use on our public land.

On page 4 of the same issue BCHA Wilderness advisor, Randy Rasmussen discusses among other items; the National Forest System Trails Stewardship Act (H.R. 4886). If enacted, it will require the Forest Service to develop a strategy to increase volunteer trail maintenance. Please read that article, and contact your member of Congress asking him/her to support the bill.

BCHC has also been a key partner in negotiating with Sequoia Kings Canyon National Parks on their Wilderness Stewardship Plan. SEKI is sort of a Canary in the Coal Mine; administrative decisions that come out of it often reverberate throughout the western parks. It is critical that the issues of unreasonable limitation on stock use that originate there be addressed before they spread.

In this letter I have addressed just a few of the important issues involving BCHC. Please consider these and others that you may be knowledgeable about. It will take all of us working together if we are to be successful in our endeavors.

Your President, Richard Waller BCHC President

#### SAVE YOUR HARD EARNED DOLLARS!

- 1 Year Individual Membership is \$50.00
- 2 Year Individual Membership is \$90.00
- 3 Year Individual Membership is \$125.00
- 1 Year Family Membership is \$60.00
- 2 Year Family Membership is \$110.00
- 3 Year Family Membership is \$150.00

Young Adult (18 to 25 years old) is \$15.00



### BCHC Membership Mailing Address & Phone No.

1280 State Rt. 208, Yerington NV 89447

Email: membership@bchcalifornia.org

By phone: (775) 463-3634

# **BCHA**

#### Back Country Horsemen Education Foundation of America Grant and Award on-line Form

The Back Country Horsemen Education Foundation will provide financial support for qualified programs that meet the Back Country Horsemen Education Foundation's specific objectives and purposes in support of a wide range of public interests. Applications for financial support should be directed to the Education Foundation a minimum of three months prior to the need to allow time for directors' review. See page 10 for more detailed information.

http://www.backcountryhorse.com/forms/secure/education-foundation-grant-request/

#### 2014 Double Diamond Award Application Format

The BCHA Volunteer Hours Committee has changed the format for submitting Double Diamond Award Nominations. These changes came about due to the large amount of participation from members across the country. The committee felt we needed to provide a means of comparing all nominations equally to be fair to all the nominators. In the past the committee has received anything from a thirty minute video to a one page written letter. Thank you all for your great entries in the past and we look forward to some great entries with your volunteer efforts from 2014.

Below is the new format. Note the April 1st Deadline for all nominations! The deadline was established so the committee members will have time to thoroughly review all the nominations before the National Directors Meeting.

### BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN of AMERICA Double Diamond Award Application

The Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) National Board established this special annual award in 2003. This award is presented to BCHA chapters for exceptional volunteer projects and/or educational programs completed during the previous year. The efforts eligible for recognition can include, but not limited to, trail maintenance, trail construction, trailhead construction, educational programs, and youth programs.

Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) will accept applications from any chapter/unit for a volunteer project or educational program that has been accomplished during the calendar year (Jan.1-Dec.31) immediately preceding the April National Board of Directors Meeting. All award applications shall be for a specific project or educational program, not for multiple projects or programs undertaken during the year. Multiple outings to accomplish a specific project are acceptable.

Include a detailed description of what the project entailed and how it was accomplished from start to finish. Answer the questions: who, what, where, when, why, and how. Include any pictures (a maximum of eight photos) the committee can use in making its decision. Also include any additional support letters from the agency or private parties that were worked with on this project or program. Applications must be submitted by email in Word or Adobe format with a maximum of four pages. (Digital format is preferred; however, a hard copy will be accepted if electronic options are not available to the nominator. Applications must be received by April 1st of the current year either by email to: Volunteer@backcountryhorse.com or US Mail to: BCHA Double Diamond, 64 Clayton RD. Clarkston, WA 99403. **No applications received after April 1<sup>st</sup> will be considered.** 

The BCHA Volunteer Hours Committee appointed by the National Chair of BCHA will decide the winner or winners. The award will be presented at the BCHA National Board Annual Banquet. For questions, please call 970-247-3231.

Thank you for the coming application!

**BCHA Volunteer Hours Committee** 

# **BCHA - BCHC**

### **Emigrant Wilderness Commercial Packing Preservation Bill**

By Richard Wallery BCHC President

The HR 3606 bill is a pretty exciting project for Backcountry Horsemen of California and commercial stock packers in the Emigrant Wilderness. It is written in collaboration with The Wilderness Society, Backcountry Horsemen of America, Backcountry Horsemen of California, Kennedy Meadows Pack Station, Aspen Meadows Pack Station, California Wilderness Coalition, and the National Forest Recreation Association. Below is the text of the letter of support sent to members of Congress:

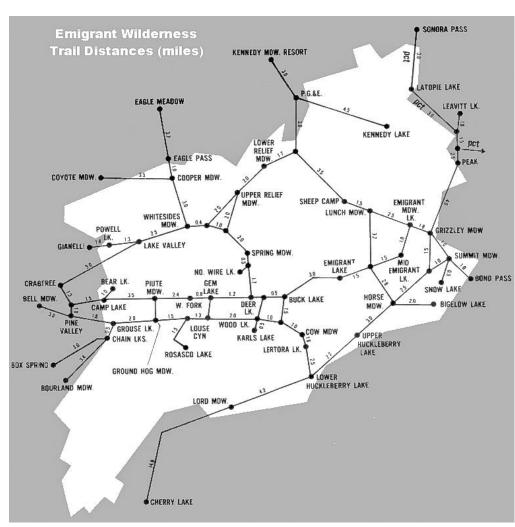
"We are writing to urge your support for a revised version of H.R. 3606, the Emigrant Wilderness Historical Use Preservation Act. We believe that wilderness areas, including the Emigrant Wilderness, should be accessible to all Americans and that pack and saddle stock provide important opportunities to experience the wilderness.

The revised version of H.R. 3606 aims to protect the wilderness character of the Emigrant Wilderness, while also ensuring that future generations may continue to enjoy commercial and recreational equestrian activities within the wilderness. This new draft also ensures that the Forest Service can protect wilderness values, while also ensuring that pack and saddle stock can continue into the future.

Every year, countless Americans access the Emigrant Wilderness by commercial or recreational stock. Horses and pack stock provide wonderful opportunities to learn first-hand about wilderness and to enjoy these special lands. The revised version of H.R. 3606 will help ensure that these lands will forever remain available for the American people to enjoy.

Thank you for supporting the revised version of this legislation. We look forward to working with you to see its enactment."

As the bill is not yet before Congress and is subject to revision, I am not including the text of it in this article. I hope that by the next newsletter I can put the text in the newsletter. This effort should help preserve commercial stock packing in the Emigrant Wilderness, and by extension, private stock packing. I feel that bills such as this, that by legislation protect the right of the public to recreate on our public lands by horseback should be applied to all our wilderness areas and public lands. This bill will be a major step forward in achieving that objective.



# **BCHC**

#### BCHC Executive Committee Board Meeting October 3, 2014 Holiday Inn, Visalia, California

Submitted by Kaye Bruns

- A. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 6:40pm, by President Richard Waller.
- B. **Record of Attendance:** The following members were present: Richard Waller, Lloyd Erlandson, Stacy Kuhns, Kaye Bruns, Lynn Joiner, Thor Bodtker, Susie Patton, Dan Horn, Denise Robinson, Ann Lange, Dennis Serpa, Chip Herzig.
- X. **Minutes from July 18-20, 2014:** Motion to approve the Minutes by Dan Horn, Second by Lloyd Erlandson. Motion passed.
- Δ. **Secretary's Report:** Kaye Bruns reported on correspondence from July October 2014. Correspondence included in Secretary's Notebook.

#### Reports

- **1. Treasurer's Report:** this report was approved at the July meeting.
- **2. BCHA:** Ann Lange reported on the National meeting.
- -Kevin McCarthy- very supportive of keeping stock in the parks and forests.
- -Jim McGarvey-holds monthly conference calls for all state presidents
- **3. Insurance:** Lloyd Erlandson reported that the Rocky Mt. Elk Foundation wants an insurance policy since we are participating with them. Does BCHA have something that will cover us for those days? Units that have not used their free days could donate to this event. Ann will ask Peg Greiwe about BCHA insurance. Lloyd will check with Misty to see who has free days left.
- **4. Membership:** Chip Herzig reported that we are down 11% (approx. 400 people).

Membership chairs need to keep tabs on their unit members.

- -Second Reading of Young Adult will take place at the BOD meeting>
  - -we need effective fundraising. Need sponsors, endowments etc.
  - -check out the PCTA.org donation page. Can Jacque create one?
- **5. Education:** Dan Horn explained that we will be going back to having Officer's

Training in the north, central and southern areas. At the BOD he will ask for unit's to sponsor the training.

**6. Public Lands:** Thor Bodtker and Susie Patton reported that the emails



for the alerts sent out are not up to date. Will ask for units to keep current emails for Presidents and Public Land Officers.

- -local units need to work on own "stuff"
- -Forest Plan looking good
- -keep Steering Committee going because it saves time in emails going out.
- **7. Public Service:** Stacy Kuhns reported that she will be contacting units through November to remind outgoing officers who collect volunteer hours to make sure the new board members knows what needs to be done and when to turn the hours in.

-presentation of new banners for unit booth at events.

Motion by Dan Horn, Second by Thor Bodtker to purchase three (3) 10 X 4 banners.

Motion passed.

-Stacy would also like three (3) tall banners for indoor displays that have bullet points about BCHC, She will get prices and help with the wording.

#### **8. Youth Coordinator:** Jacque Murphy was not present

-Jacque wants to continue as Youth Coordinator but needs help. Mary Odell would like to be Co- coordinator with her.

**9. Website:** changes were made that we discussed at the July meeting.

**10. Newsletter:** Chip Herzig reported the next edition is when we get extra copies made for upcoming events; Horse Expo (Pomona and Sacramento) = 300. Rendezvous = 100.

Mule Days takes left over from Horse Expo/Rendezvous, National Convention = 100.

Ten Minute Break-

#### A. Old Business

- 1. BCHA National Meeting- Sacramento: April 22, 2015 (Wed. Sat.)
  -Wed evening meet and greet: Dennis Serpa would like the Ex. Board
  - -Thurs. dinner and entertainment at Jerry Tindell's ranch in Wilton
- -February meeting we will need dollar numbers for event, to publish information

#### 2. Rendezvous 2015: Frog Town off of Hwy 49

Units helping: Mother Lode, Mid Valley, Eastern Sierra, Redshank, Santa Ana, North Bay, Kern Sierra.

- -registration post cards will go out in January, also info on the website at that time
  - -Dan will take care of the Wilderness Rider presentations.
- **3. Policy Review:** Lynn is still working on it. Should be done by February meeting.
- **4.** Membership Resolution tabled because three (3) BCHA reps would not take it back to their boards. BCHA did not want to share costs, they want all their money \$13 or \$15.
- **5.** 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Young Adult Membership: also to include the 2 and 3 year membership reading.
- **6.** Masters Course updates: September 2014 in Weaverville, Twin Lakes area Ben Lawhon-Outdoor Ethics.
  - -First class to the public will be in June. Promotion starts in January 2015
  - -Masters Class and Wilderness Riders class will remain two separate classes
- -\$500 per person. No stock involved because of insurance. Same model as 9 Mile except we will camp.
- -may have a second class in Sept/Oct of 2015. Two instructors per class and we have 9 trained. Need a cook and an agency person there.
  - -Masters Course starts January 2015 and continues for 5 years.

Continued on page 8

# **BCHC PUBLIC LANDS**

#### **PUBLIC LANDS REPORT**

Submitted by Co-Vice Presidents, Susie Patton & Thor Bodtker

We have had an eventful year with Public Lands and look to the coming year for even more successes and challenges.

During this past year we have participated in the Plan Revision for the Sequoia, Sierra and Inyo National Forest. We are happy to say that someone from Backcountry Horsemen of California took the time to attend almost every meeting and make sure that the interests of BCHC were expressed. A big thank you goes out to all who took their time to attend meetings about their forests. At the last round of meetings we were able to see the first draft of the four alternatives and at least two are looking very positive for our interests.

In October BCHC signed on in support of HR3606 –Emigrant Wilderness Historical Use Preservation Act. This bill sets the standard of the levels of pack and saddle use to be that which existed at the time of the designation of the Emigrant Wilderness. It also preserves activities such as outfitting, guiding, camping

grazing of pack stock and associated campsites. During this time we realized that the process for BCHC to support various bills, legislation, etc. was very cumbersome. We are working to streamline the process so we can quickly take a stand to support or oppose any issues that arise.

We were very proud of the support BCHC members gave the south end of the State during the Cuyamaca State Park General Plan adoption. After the Action Alert we saw many comments submitted by BCHC members. The new Plan was adopted and most all of BCHC concerns were answered. They are now moving forward with a Trails Inventory. An aside of this process was that they were also able to come to a compromise on the current horse camping sites since so many commented on it during the planning process.

We are currently watching the progress of HR4886 – National Forest System Trails Stewardship Act. This bill would direct the USDA to publish a national strategy to significantly increase the role of volunteers and partners in trail maintenance. This goes along with the Forest Plan Revision which also is addressing the use of partnerships and volunteers to accomplish

trail maintenance. The bill is currently in Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy and Forestry. It was authored by Rep. Lummis of Wyoming and has 27 cosponsors including 4 from California. We may be looking at supporting this bill at the February meeting.

We are also watching HR5204-Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Modernization Act for a different reason. This Act extends the authority for the collection and expenditure of recreation fees on federal lands through 2020. There is a very real concern that this bill was sent to the floor of the House without a committee hearing and could become law without a public hearing as a rider to a budget bill. On December 22, 2014 it was placed on the Union Calendar - #537. This bill has created a lot of controversy and our feeling is that every BCHC member should look at it and let their representatives know how they feel. We hope to have more information at the February State Meeting.

Please let us know about Public Land issues in your area so we can organize an action to assist you if at all possible.

#### **GRANT WORKSHOP**

On May 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 I attended a Grant Writing Workshop on behalf of Backcountry Horsemen of California. The workshop was very intensive as to the procedure and documents needed to be submitted in order to receive a grant. The instructor, Andy Anderson, gave the attendees numerous web sites that have grants to give out depending on your non-profit, what type of grant needed, and the amount requested.

I have not pursued looking into the different sites; however, due to a personal busy schedule. I look forward to the beginning of the year to devote time and energy into establishing a request for grants for the State's use.

I have requested a \$1,000 education grant from BCHA to be used for a new Display Board for our State events. I have not heard back, however, if they have chosen the lucky winners.

I want to thank the State Board for entrusting me with this huge responsibility and I will not let you down.

Nancy Johns Kimmell – Education Chair for Los Padres Unit

# **BCHC**

Continued from page 6

Wilderness Riders Class: September 2015 at Granite Creek Campground

Redwood Unit donated \$500.00 to Masters tuition fees.

- 7. 2015 Lucky Calendars: see handout from Lynn Joiner. Will not cost units any more money than they have already spent.
- 8. Endowment Fund: Action items for Strategic Plan. Richard Waller will work with Nancy Chides to get a list of grantors. We need to pursue corporate sponsorship under C3 bylaws. Richard will send info to the Ex. Committee.
- 9. BCHC Website: PCTA 's site works on the iPhone. BCHA did same thing. We need to change over to new website format, and get ours updated. Is there a grant available to do this? Thor Bodtker has someone who might be able to help.

-We need a person to update our BCHC Facebook page on a daily basis.

10. PCTA endowment information: Chip Herzig has a meeting at the end of this month.

He will check to see about using their page.

#### G. New Business:

- 1. Lucky Calendar for 2016: yes and we need to start getting photos now
- 2. 501C-4: does not allow tax write-offs unless used as advertising. All donations go into the C3 fund.
- -First Reading: withhold dues reimbursement checks for not returning the following required paperwork:
  - Unit Financial Report
  - Unit Volunteer Hours Report
  - Unit End of the Year Report
- 3. Strategic Plan (approved by BOD 2-15-14) need to develop action items from the plan. Richard and Chip will write these up.
- 4. Antelope Valley Bylaws updated: Motion by Lynn Joiner to approve. Second by Dan Horn. Motion passed.
- 5. Us Rider insurance: Thor Bodtker gave us his report. We can have a three (3) month trail. BCHC gets \$10 for every new membership. Ex. Committee approved. Need motion at the BOD meeting.
- 6. Bill HR 3606: handout given to Ex Committee from Bob Magee. Bill is totally re-written from the first writing. Forest Service has stamp of approval for this new version.
- -need official letter from BCHC to promote HR 3606. Randy Rasmussen should have information as to where to send letter. Ex. Committee will recommend to BOD that BCHC gives our support. BCHA feels they can't support the bill unless BCHC supports it.
- -Thor and Susie to email units regarding this support of Bill HR 3606, and they need to answer back within 2 weeks.
- 7. Initiatives: BCHA and BCHC: Dennis Serpa will email Ex. Committee to figure out what we want to do.

#### H. Other Business:

- 1. Review of 2015 Officers ballot
- 2. Units not attending Saturday night dinner: 12/22 unit will be represented, 22 people. Lynn will check on Andersons Hotel for accommodations for our Feb 2015 meeting.
- 3. BCHC bylaws on the website: no Motion to adjourn at 10:05pm by Lynn Joiner. Second by Dan Horn. Motion passed.

# 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

#### GET INVOLVED, DO YOUR PART

DON'T FORGET: The BCHC Executive Committee will no longer send out membership renewal verification "green slips" via regular mail. Instead, each unit president and membership chair will get a personal email from the BCHC Membership Chair (Chip Herzig) with each units' data AND it will be put on the web page in the password protected section.

# **BCHC**

### **Volunteer Service Reporting**

By Stacy Kuhns with help from Larry Zauberis, Volunteer Hours Committee

Volunteerism is one of the most important activities Back Country Horsemen can use in our effort to perpetuate enjoyable common sense use of pack and saddle stock in the backcountry. A central point of our mission statement is to assist government agencies in maintenance and management of public lands.

By using our time and resources, we help insure that public land remains open to recreational stock use by earning a seat at the table where we can influence the decisions concerning access to public lands by pack and saddle stock users. The value of being able to speak with public lands managers from the position of having provided volunteer service cannot be overstated.

It seems that while our members are more than willing to volunteer their time and energy to maintain trails all across the country, many are reluctant to report the hours and expenses incurred in that effort. The hours and value of volunteer service by Back Country Horsemen is consistently underreported. In 2012 twenty-one of the twenty-seven state organizations in BCHA reported volunteer service. It is unfortunate that the volunteer efforts in those non-reporting states were not reflected in the 373,381 hours valued at over \$12.5 M in the national report.

It is important to remember that the purpose our volunteer effort goes far beyond the satisfaction provided by the trail work itself. The hours spent and expenses volunteered add to the credibility of our collective voice in discussions with public land managers whether on the local ranger district or in Washington D.C.

It is up to us at the unit level to track and report our service. Each unit should appoint a Volunteer Hours Coordinator (VHC) or committee responsible for reporting the hours that members work and other expenses they incur during their service.

It is important to understand that the value of the volunteer service goes beyond trail work hours. It also includes time members devote to engagement in the management planning process. Other reported expenses like travel time, stock and equipment hauling, and donations in kind add to the value of our volunteer service.

BCH also tracks the impact of our volunteer service by tracking the miles of trail maintained, both in Wilderness Areas and on other public lands. These numbers are essential in discussions with legislators and public land managers as they demonstrate the significant influence BCH is having on the maintenance backlog the USFS is experiencing under current budget conditions.

Having been appointed to chair the Volunteer Hours Committee please get your hours to me by <u>Feb 1st</u>, Please communicate with each other in the unit to make sure whoever is taking care of your units volunteer hours have your information.

I compile them all and get them off to BCHA. I want to make sure that everyone knows materials are available on the BCH website for units to use to track volunteer hours and expenses. As a committee, we worked hard to update the MS Excel workbook to be more user-friendly

Please download and use these fresh materials from the BCH website at: <a href="http://www.bchcalifornia.org/forms.html">http://www.bchcalifornia.org/forms.html</a> - There are many ways to assist with the worksheets.

While we will accept Volunteer Hours reports in just about any format, using the form provided on the website greatly aids us in creating a report that clearly expresses the nature of all our volunteer efforts on our public lands.

Please feel free to contact me (<u>stacykuhns@aol.com</u> or call 909-633-1705) at any time if you have questions concerning reporting your volunteer service.

Thanks so much for all your efforts!

REMINDER

#### February Board of Director's meeting:

DATES: February 27 and 28, 2015 PLACE: Best Western Andersen's Inn 12367 S. Highway 33, Santa Nella, CA

The 45 day notice with this information was sent out around the middle of January. See the packet for more information.

# **BCH Education**

### **BCH Education Foundation Announces 2015 Grants**

article from the BCHA Fall newsletter

BCH Education Foundation is now accepting applications for \$1,000.00 grants. Grants will be awarded to 25 BCH Chapters and/or BCH State organizations for qualified projects. Grant funds are made possible by the successful BCHA crowdfunding campaign. Applications are due by February 1, 2015. Successful applicants will be notified no later than March 15, 2015.

Qualified grant projects are:

- 1. Trail and/or trailhead construction and maintenance.
- 2. Training, certification and/or presenting minimum impact practices with saddle and pack stock, i.e., "Leave No Trace".
- 3. Educational programs that promote cooperative interaction with other user groups and public land managers regarding safety, care, and protection of our backcountry resources.
- 4. Educational brochures and/or BCH promotional literature
- 5. Research concerning the wise and sustainable use of the back country resources.

The grant application form is available on the www.backcountryhorse.com website by following the Education tab and link to the Education Foundation. Special consideration is given to applications that offer partnerships with public land agencies and or other user groups.

Letters of endorsement from public agencies are encouraged.

Grant applications and letters of endorsement can be mailed to

**Back Country Horsemen Education Foundation** 

P.O. Box 1367

Graham, Washington 98338-1367.

You may also email application packages go to peg@backcountryhorse.com.

Mailed applications should include five copies of your entire packet. Any questions about applications or the grant process can be directed to: Peg Greiwe at peg@backcountryhorse.com or Foundation@backcountryhorse.com Mylon Filkins, D.V.M., Chair at MFilkins@BAK.rr.com.

Thank you for all you do.

**Back Country Horsemen Education** 

**Foundation Directors** 

Mylon Filkins, D.V.M. (CA)

Randy Darling (WA)

Becky Hope (OR)

Michael Murphy (CA)

Karen Saner (WY)



**NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** 

April 15, 20145

FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2015 EDITION



# LOCAL NEWS

### U.S. Forest Service Participated in the 2015 Rose Parade

Excerpted from Vallejo Times-Herald and U.S. Forest Service Klamath National Forest website

"Capping off a year-long 50th anniversary celebration of the 1964 Wilderness Act, U.S. Forest Service rangers, firefighters and volunteers — including three stationed on Mare Island — participated in the 126th Rose Parade in Pasadena on Jan. 1. The U.S. Forest Service entry was a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, the historic role of packers in supporting wild land firefighters and other back country operations and appreciation of the outstanding contributions made by national forest volunteers," spokesman Stanton Florea said. The all-mule equestrian entry included an entourage of Forest Service Rangers in period uniforms and was anchored by three mule pack strings." stated agency officials.



To read the full article dated 12/18/14 go to: http://www.timesheraldonline.com/general-news/20141218/mare-island-based-us-forest-service-to-be-in-upcoming-rose-parade



Klamath National Forest participation in the Rose Parade. - To see more photos go to: https://www.facebook.com/pages/US-Forest-Service-Klamath-National-Forest

Six employees from the Klamath National Forest participated in support roles for the Forest Service Parade entry. The all mule equestrian entry included an entourage of Forest Service Rangers and Smokey Bear riding atop an authentic 19th century wagon, anchored by three mule pack strings, a mounted color guard and a fire crew that walked alongside.

### **BCHC**

### **Old Spanish Trail Ride**

Submitted by Richard Waller

We were clipping and sawing and thrashing our way through the dense muddy mesquite thickets of the Armargosa River gorge on a hot, windless desert day. What brought us here?

Several weeks before our team had assembled at Hesperia Lake Horse Camp, in Hesperia, California: Jim Clark of Ojai, Otis Calef of Santa Barbara, Kathleen Phelps and I from Arroyo Grande. Also here was our film team; husband and wife Ned Clark and Benedicte Schoyen, plus our invaluable shuttle driver and general aide de camp, Rod Thompson, also of Ojai.

Early the next morning we loaded our animals into the drop off trailer, Jim's 6 horse/mule stock trailer and we drove I15 south to Glen Helen Regional Park. This was the start of our Old Spanish Trail Ride. We considered starting at the original terminus of the trail at Pueblo De Los Angeles, however, the prospect of riding 50 miles of Los Angeles area streets and roads dissuaded us.

Rod stopped the GMC crew cab with the stock trailer on the side of the road across from the rodeo grounds at Glen Helen Park. We offloaded the animals: the three mules, Jim's; Echo and Hallelujah, Otis's; Pretty Boy Floyd, my mustang, Robinson Jeffers and Kathleen's Arab, Izzy. We mounted up and rode off to the Cajon River wash, Jim ponying one of his two mules.

I am sure, everyone, like me, wondered what the next month and 600 miles would bring. We rode the wash, then up onto old Route 66, eventually across several sets of railroad tracks to the Pacific Crest Trail. Then east along the PCT to the tunnel under I15 which comes out at the base of Crowder Canyon. The PCT climbs through this canyon; it was also used as part of the Old Spanish Trail (OST) by the traders from Santa Fe to Los Angeles, which was handy for us. The trail ascends the canyon into a very strange badlands country then tops out on a ridge above Summit Valley which put us at the top of the watershed of the Mojave River.

A little over a week later we were at the sink at the end of the Mojave River near Baker, California riding through Zzyzx, having been perhaps the first horsemen to ride the length of the river in over one hundred fifty years. There were some sections of private land, military land, and riparian jungle we didn't ride, but essentially, we rode nearly the entire length of the river. From Baker the route took us north through vast desolate Silurian Valley for several days. My horse, Jeffers suffered a stone bruise in an extremely rocky area of the valley, I was forced to ride Echo the mule most of the remainder of the trip. We made it to the Amargosa River gorge, in rock climber's terms, the crux pitch of the route. The first part of the gorge is just a lovely ride in a desert canyon. Then came the jungle; the mesquite and cottonwood jungle with deep bogs on a very hot day. We, as I started the story with, clipped and sawed our way through the jungle. Working the mules and the horses through our cuts, and across the bogs, eventually coming up onto a very nice trail, the roadbed of the old Tonopah and Tidewater Railroad that once ran through the canyon, which we were ever so happy to see! There were a few miles of easy riding below the China Garden Date Ranch and their very welcome ice cold date shakes. Our pickup trailer and film crew were not there, where



Left to right: Otis Calef, Richard Waller, Jim Clark at Stump Springs, Pahrump Valley, Nevada.

they were supposed to meet us. They had driven in several hours before, but we learned later, were told by an "experienced" desert hiker that there was no way through the gorge, even for a hiker, and that we would have to turn back. Our crew returned to our Dumont Dunes camp expecting us to have to come back. Borrowing the phone from the ranch as there was no cell service in the canyon, Jim called his cousin Rod and we were back on track, he returned, we loaded our muddy animals and drove to Resting Spring Ranch a lovely oasis in the desert.

The spring here was used by the traders on the OST. We spent a rest day there, drove to Tecopa and gratefully soaked in the Inyo County free hot springs. Allen Hardt, the ranch manager was a wealth of information on the trail. He guided us via his ATV through the sandy badlands east of the ranch to an overlook where he pointed out the trail and his cairns. He had built rock cairns which were works of art marking the alignment of the OST which he had carefully scouted out over the years. Thanks to him we had a pleasant ride through the desert to Emigrant Pass. One wonders how many Emigrant Passes there are in the West?

The trace of the old westbound mule caravan track is obvious. We were able to follow it and ride right up the 166+ year old tread to the summit of the pass then down the far side. Perhaps we were the first riders in all these years to use this track. We set camp out in the broad desert valley that night, a brilliant carpet of stars above us. The next morning we continued on across the vast emptiness, Kathleen picked up cell service and learned from her husband back home, that their dog was very ill, she decided to return home to help care for it. Jim, Otis, Rod and I continued onward reaching Las Vegas and beyond. Following the trail, we rode the 50 mile waterless jornada between Las Vegas and the Muddy River, down California Wash for two days from its western rim on down to the Muddy River. We rode across the flat tableland of Mormon Mesa east of the Muddy then a precipitous drop on a steep trail Halfway wash running to the Virgin River, up the river to Mesquite, Arizona, where Rod left us and Eddie Gibson another friend of Jim's joined us for the rest of the trip.

### **BCHC**

We headed north over Utah Hill, Utah leaving the Mojave Desert. The Mojave Desert is delineated by Joshua trees. We saw our first Joshua trees in Summit Valley and our last Joshua trees about where the first Mormon pioneers saw their first and named them after the prophet Joshua due to the tree's upraised branches which to them resembled the prophets arms, over 300 miles away.

BCHA Treasurer Freddy Dunn had made arrangements with Kent and Trudy Thurgood of the BCH Utah for us to stay at their ranch in central Utah which proved to be a wonderful experience. He and Trudy were very hospitable and told us great stories of the area and its history. Greatest of all he had arranged with private landowners in Magotsu Canyon through which the OST ran. We were lucky enough to get to ride behind locked gates on old ranches dating from the early settlement days of the 1850's. A bit unlucky in that was a bitter day, riding into the teeth of a cold north wind. A far cry from our hot sweltering rides across the Mojave Desert.

The Thurgood's allowed us to stay in their bunkhouse during the only rainy/snowy weather we encountered on our ride; we are very thankful and grateful to them. Kent barbecued elk burgers for us and on another evening we took them to a small steakhouse in the enchanting mountain hamlet of Pine Valley.

After saying our goodbyes to them, we traversed Mountain Meadows which is about five miles long and a mile wide with good water. It was used by the traders to recover their stock after the long dry desert stretches both east and west. We then rode Holt Canyon down to the Escalante Desert where curiously enough the local brand inspector examined our papers. What made it curious is that his name was Klayton Holt, a direct descendant of the family the canyon was named for over 150 years ago.

Our final segment of trail was across the flat expanse of the Escalante Desert. This was 3 days of riding that ended at Parowan Gap with its world class petroglyphs. We camped our final night at Parowan Rodeo Grounds, in Parowan, Utah. This will be our first night's camp on the second leg on our way to Parowan to Santa Fe, New Mexico, next August 9.

You can view the video trailer for our film at: http://vimeo.com/113223463

#### SAN DIEGO MEMBER BIG WINNER IN LUCKY CALENDAR DRAWING!

By Carol Jo Hargreaves

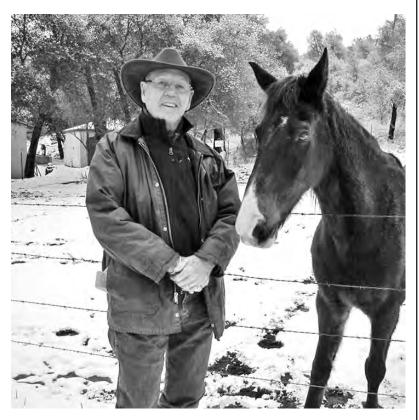
A year ago at San Diego Unit's Vallecito Days, longtime BCHC member Dan Clifford bought two Lucky Calendars from Terry Jorgensen. "I thought I was just making a donation to BCHC," Clifford said. He took possession of the beautiful photo calendars that, he believed plainly "show what BCHC does," put them away and forgot about them.

Early this January, Dan received a voice message from BCHC Treasurer Lynn Joiner, asking him to return her call. As Dan is the Alternate National Director to BCHA, he thought it was "just BCHC Executive Committee business." He called Lynn back and got the surprising good news: He had won the first BCHC Lucky Calendar drawing and was going to be sent a check for \$1,000! "It was kind of exciting to be the first to win!" Dan exclaimed, "I think it's a good thing a member won the first one."

Dan was purely lucky in winning the first (and second largest) drawing of the 2015 BCHC Lucky Calendar project. You can be lucky, too. Make sure to sell all of the calendars and to submit every ticket stub to Lynn Joiner. Everyone whose ticket stub is in the hopper is eligible to win and, even if you win, your ticket is put back in the prize pool for the next drawing. Prizes range from \$50 to \$3,000. Ticket holders have 215 opportunities to win in 2015. Drawings are held every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday; the last day of every month, and the first and last days of the year. Prizes are awarded by check so watch your mailbox. Winners' names will be posted on the BCHC website (bchcalifornia.org) YOU may be the next winner!

See winners at the BCHC Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/BackcountryHorsemenofCalifornia



Lucky Calendar \$1000 Raffle Winner - Dan Clifford

### 2015 Rendezvous

#### BCHC RENDEZVOUS TRAIL CHALLENGE

By Carlena Kellogg - Mid Valley Unit

Mark your calendar for a fun and exciting Trail Challenge to be held during the 2015 BCHC Rendezvous on March 14-15 in Angels Camp. Invite a friend, because the event is open to the public.

This Trail Challenge is for those of you who enjoy a trail ride that is 'off-the-beaten-path'. It is an obstacle course competition that tests the skills of both the horse and rider. Each rider will be sent out alone, one after the other, with a set of written instructions about each obstacle. You can expect natural-type obstacles, horsemanship skills, and creative, man-made obstacles. Penalty points accrue; therefore the rider with the fewest points is the winner.

There will be 5 classes for the Trail Challenge: Open, Amateur, Novice, Wrangler (12 – 17 yrs), and Packer. The Packer rider must provide his/her own packed horse/mule. A few of the Packer obstacles will be different from the other classes. The entry fee is \$50/rider.

Oh, did I mention a buckle?? A CHAMPION buckle will be given to the low point rider in each class. Prizes will also be awarded through 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

The Mid Valley Unit is excited to be a part of this BCHC Rendezvous Trail Challenge. But, in order for an event of this size to run smoothly, we need several volunteers. I am looking for eight more all-day judges for the Saturday & Sunday Trail Challenge. You may volunteer to judge for one or both days. The judge must be knowledgeable regarding horses and have riding experience. I also need one person to assist me in running the event and one person for the ground crew.

The BCHC Trail Challenge entry and information is available on the website: www.bchcalifornia.org

Please contact Carlena Kellogg 209-505-0122 or Ladyroughrider1@ yahoo.com for information regarding competing in the Trail Challenge or volunteering as a judge or an assistant.

Hmmm . . . I wonder which BCHC Unit will have the most trail challenge buckle winners?

### BCHC RENDEZVOUS TRAIL CHALLENGE

Calaveras County Fairgrounds 101 Frogtown Rd, Angels Camp, California



March 14 - 15, 2015

Saturday Classes 9am: Open, Amateur, Packer

Sunday Classes 9am: Novice, Wrangler (12-17 yrs)

Entry: \$50/rider

### What is a Trail Challenge?

This Trail Challenge is for those of you who enjoy a trail ride that is 'off-thebeaten-path'. It is an obstacle course competition that tests the skills of both the horse and rider. Each rider will be sent out alone, one after the other, with a set of written instructions about each obstacle. You can expect natural-type obstacles, horsemanship skill, & creative, man-made obstacles. Penalty points accrue: therefore the rider with the fewest points is the winner.



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! Invite your friends **RENDEZVOUS INFO** www.bchcalifornia.org

Save time, secure a spot, & pre-register by March 7, 2015 -- Rain or Shine --

CARLENA KELLOGG 209.505.0122 LADYROUGHRIDER1@YAHOO.COM

### **BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN** OF CALIFORNIA

**VENDOR APPRECIATION BEER, WINE & CHEESE TASTING** 

March 14, 2015 3pm to 5pm **INCLUDES** 

ETCHED SOUVENIR TASTING GLASS

Calaveras Fair Grounds Angels Camp, CA

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC **MUST BE 21 YEARS OR OLDER** TO PARTICIPATE ADMISSION \$15.00

This Fundraiser Helps Support BCHC (c)4





# Calveras Fairgrounds, California

### 2015 Rendezvous Packing Contest Rules:

ODD LOAD PACKING: ANIMALS, PACK SADDLES, PACK BOXES, LASH ROPES, MANTIES and LOADS WILL BE PROVIDED. A two packer team will use live mules. The team will load the items provided, tie on securely with a box or diamond hitch. The pack animal will then be lead from the ground around a cone to establish stability. Judging will be based on combination of time-30%, stability-30%, evenness of load 20%, working safely around the animals-10% and teamwork-10%.

Silver Buckles to the winning team

#### **BOX HITCH SPEED COMPETITION:**

ANIMALS, PACK SADDLES, PACK BOXES, LASH ROPES, MANTIES and LOADS WILL BE PROVIDED. One packer will load and balance boxes with load provided. Participate will put boxes on mule from each side, no throwing box over the animal. Participate will then put mantee on the mule properly, tucking all corners and top, then tie box hitch. Speed and correctness of procedures will be split 50%-50 %

Silver Buckles to the winner

#### **DIAMOND HITCH SPEED COMPETITION:**

ANIMALS, PACK SADDLES, PACK BOXES, LASH ROPES, MANTEES and LOADS WILL BE PROVIDED. One packer will load and balance boxes with load provided. Participate will put boxes on mule from each side, no throwing box over the animal. Participate will then put mantee on the mule properly, tucking all corners and top, then tie single diamond hitch of your choice, must throw the tail of the rope. Speed and correctness of procedures will be split 50%-50 %.

Silver Buckles to the winner

SATURDAY MARCH 14, 2015

TIME: 9AM-11AM

**1ST COMPETITION**: CATEGORY-ODD LOAD PACKING-TWO PERSONS ANY AGE MAY COMPETE \$25 entry fee each person

HITCH COMPETITION WILL START IMMEDIATELY AFTER PACK SCRAMBLE OR 1PM IF THERE IS NO PACK SCRAMBLE and finish at 3:00 pm

**2ND COMPETITION:** CATEGORY-BOX HITCH

DIVISION 1-YOUTH PACKING UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE

DIVISION 2-18 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER **3RD COMPETITION**: CATEGORY-DIAMOND HITCH

DIVISION 1-YOUTH PACKING UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE DIVISION 2-18 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER

SILVER BUCKLES TO THE WINNER IN EACH DIVISION!!!
ENTRY FEE FOR 18 YEARS OLD (THE DAY OF MARCH 14),

2015 is \$25 per class YOUTH ENTRY FEE IS FREE!! So come and try your skills

Send all entry fees to Carl Perry—22682 Williams Ave. Hilmar, Ca. 95324. Anyone can sign up Saturday at the event also. We would appreciate early entries. *See Page 25 for Entry Form* 



He has been voted

Six times

Entertainer of the Year,
Six times

Male Performer of the Year
and Five times

Songwriter of the Year

and Five times
Songwriter of the Year
by the Western Music Association,
and received the
Will Rogers Award

from the Academy of Western Artists.



### Friday, March 13, 2015

at the Backcountry Horsemen of California's 2015 Rendezvous at 8:00 PM in the Mark Twain Hall at the Calaveras County Fairgrounds in Angels Camp, CA.



Advance Purchase: \$25 - At the Door: \$30 Available online: http://www.bchcalifornia.org/rendezvous.htm

For more information, visit: http://www.bchcalifornia.org/rendezvous.htm or contact: Mike Kohlbaker at (916) 214-6505 / email: 4horsen@sbcglobal.net



# 2015 Rendezvous (cont'd)

### BCHC RENDEZVOUS 2015 DUTCH OVEN COOK-OFF



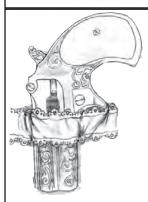
# JOIN US FOR A REAL OLD FASHIONED DUTCH OVEN COOK-OFF!

AS PART OF THE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMAN OF CALIFORNIA'S ANNUAL RENDEZVOUS EVENT AT CALAVERAS COUNTY MOTHERLODE FAIRGROUNDS 2465 GUN CLUB ROAD IN ANGELS CAMP, CALIF 95222

RENDEZVOUS IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC DURING MARCH 13-14 & 15 WITH DUTCH OVEN 101 CLASSES OFFERED FREE ON FRIDAY & SATURDAY AT 2:00 pm. DUTCH OVEN COOK-OFF STARTS AT 8 am SUNDAY MORNING MARCH 15.

FOR MORE INFO GO TO

WWWBCHCALIFORNIA.ORG



Backcountry Horsemen of California 2015 Rendezvous Gun Drawing Raffle Tickets: \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00

\$500 towards your choice of gun from Fred's Firearms, Oakdale, CA

### www.FredsFirearms.com

Winner Need Not be Present to Win / Winner needs to arrange picku

#### 2015 Rendezvous Western Art Show

By Rudy Dezzani

With the 2015 BCHC Rendezvous fast approaching, I will be in charge of the Western Art Show which will take place Saturday, March 14.

I know within the BCHC membership there are some very talented craftspeople, and I want to see their talent and work displayed. Past Rendezvous Western Art Shows have always had a large showing of photographs and artwork, but lately there have been limited craft entries. I would like to see more horse-related craft items, too. So, here are the categories for Western Art Show entries: carving, crafts, leather, painting, photography, and sewing/knitting.

The art show entry forms, along with more information, are available on the BCHC website: www.bchcalifornia.org, click News/Events, then Rendezvous.

As in past Rendezvous venues, help is always welcomed and appreciated. I can sure use some help with setup, judging entries, and monitoring the art room. If you have any questions about the Western Art Show or want to volunteer, please contact me: Rudy Dezzani (in Modesto, 209-345-8571).

I hope to see you at the BCHC Rendezvous in Angels Camp. Be sure to stop by the Western Art Show room and say, "Hi."

# BCHC RENDEZVOUS 2015 BRING YOUR ORIGINAL WESTERN ARTS & CRAFTS MARCH 13 - 15, 2015

ENTER YOUR WESTERN THEMED ORIGINAL ARTS & CRAFTS
ITEMS BY 11 am SATURDAY MARCH 14th 2015

MULTIPLE CATEGORIES INCLUDING

ART: PAINT - PHOTOGRAPHY - SCULPTURE

CRAFTS: LEATHER-FABRIC

METAL CRAFTS: ETCHING - WELDING - ETC

MISCELLANEOUS: EVERYTHING ELSE

\$5 ENTRY FEE - PRIZES AWARDED FOR EVERY CATEGORY

#### JUDGES TO BE DETERMINED

AS PART OF THE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMAN OF CALIFORNIA'S ANNUAI RENDEZVOUS EVENT AT CALAVERAS COUNTY MOTHERLOFAIRGROUND 2465 GUN CLUB ROAD IN ANGELS CAMP, CALIF 95222

BCHCCOORDINATOR: RUDY DEZZANI 209-345-8571

FOR MORE INFO GO TO WWW.BCHCALIFORNIA.ORG

# **BCHC Membership Application**

APPLICATION	'alley □ Redwood □ Sequoia er Lode □ San Diego □ Shasta Trinity		
Email Address:  Donation to BCHC Education Fund (tax deductible) \$			
Total Enclosed: \$ Check No  Parent Unit Membership Types: (CIRCLE ONE) Individual \$50 - Family \$60 - 2 year Individual \$90 - 2 Year Family \$110 - 3 Year Individual \$125 - 3 year Family \$150 Young Adult (18-25 years old) \$15 - Benefactor \$100 - Patron \$250 - Mt Whitney \$500 Associate Memberships: AN ADDITIONAL \$15.00 PER UNIT IS ADDED TO YOUR PARENT UNIT DUES.			
Associate Membership for:  Associate Membership for:  Unit Name (from above list)  Unit Name (from above list)  Please write additional choices on back.	\$15.00/unit \$15.00/unit		
Parent BCHC Membership Types Individual, Family (Shared*), Benefactor, Patron, and Mt Whitney.	KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS  I submitted an Application Form for a new –  Individual Membership \$ 50.00		
A Parent Membership is affiliated with a single Local Unit. BCHC members may NOT hold more than one active Parent Membership.  *A SHARED Membership is for two adults with differing last names who share a common address.	□ Family (Shared) Membership       \$ 60.00         □ Young Adult (18-25 years old)       \$ 15.00         □ 2 Year Individual       \$ 90.00         □ 2 Year Family       \$ 110.00         □ 3 Year Individual       \$ 125.00		
Associate Memberships  These special Memberships are only available to persons already holding Parent BCHC Membership. No one may sign up for an Associate Membership without 1) having registered one of the Parent Membership types, and 2) having selected Parent Unit affiliation.  You may sign up for as many Associate Memberships as	☐ 3 Year Family \$ 150.00 ☐ Benefactor Membership \$ 100.00 ☐ Patron Membership \$ 250.00 ☐ Mt Whitney Membership \$ 500.00 On that form, I also requested —		
you like.  Associate Memberships may be initiated at any time during the term of your Parent Membership.  Associate Memberships must expire concurrently with the Parent Membership and are renewable only at the time of renewal of the Parent Membership.	Associate Memberships \$ My Total Remittance: \$ My Check Number: Date Mailed:		
Complete information regarding BCHC Membership is available on the MEMBERSHIP pages at BCHCalifornia.org or call (775) 463-3634	Verification of BCHC membership is available via (1) BCHC unit president's reports (2) BCHC membership chair reports (3) a self addressed stamped envelope submitted with this form or (4) a valid email address.		

### MLU Members help with 4-H Backcountry Horse Project

By Jerry Heitzler

In addition to grant money awarded to the project, members of the BCH MLU contributed time and equipment to the El Dorado County 4-H Backcountry Horse Project that served eight 4H campers (5 girls and 3 boys) with the help of two junior 4H leaders, nine adult 4H leaders, and at least three other adult volunteers and presenters.







The El Dorado County 4-H Backcountry Horse Project was sponsored and funded in large part by a BCHC youth grant awarded to and administered by the BCH Mother Lode Unit, thanks to the grant proposal writing efforts of Cathy Andrews, 2013 Education Committee Chairperson for BCH Mother Lode Unit. The BCHC grant was awarded to the BCHML in order to provide opportunity for youth to experience a horse camping week that incorporates the 7 Principles of Leave No Trace outdoor ethics in the hope that it would instill a desire to carry on the legacy of livestock use in the backcountry for future generations. Cathy Andrews was the camp director for the project.

Upon the arrival of the 4H-ers and their horses on Friday evening, LNT principals 1-3 were discussed and illustrated by (1) discussing the plan for the week, (2) set up minimal-impact high lines for the horses and mule, and (3) show the campers how they will do their dishes after meals, and make them aware of the proper use of latrines supplied for the campout. Fun 'get acquainted' games were played around the campfire before a strict 9 PM bedtime.

Saturday morning had us on a long, dusty trail ride to Gerle Creek Reservoir and back to camp, followed by dinner and a discussion of LNT principle #5 on Minimizing Campfire Impacts, presented by a BCHC Wilderness Rider member of the Mother Lode Unit.

Sunday morning was the poker ride, followed by an afternoon of fun









and games on horseback, including a Cup Race, Musical Tires, Ribbon Race, Water Glass Race, Egg Spoon Race, and the ever-popular Grandpa's Underpants Race.

All races were at walk/trot for safety and to protect the meadow. Campers wrote 'Thank you' notes to the various sponsors who provided prizes for the games.

Later Sunday afternoon we were entertained by some of the 4H-ers with a skit illustrating LNT Principle #4 "Leave what you find", using the stones (artifacts) of one of the historic stone cellars as an example.

Sunday evening our guest line-dance instructors gave the 4H-ers lessons in line dancing, which was quite a big hit.

Monday morning, the 4H-ers gathered in rapt attention as BCH Mother Lode members Jere



Schaeffer and Jerry Heitzler teamed up to present a mule packing demonstration. The afternoon found the group on another trail ride followed by an evening of skits and fun around the campfire.

Tuesday offered yet another trail ride for the heartiest and fun around camp for the others who played games before the evening activities, including more discussion of LNT Principles.

Wednesday ended our week with the bittersweet task of breaking camp. After packing up, we had group photos, signed the scrapbook in Les' Mess Hall, and distributed awards for best LNT campers.

The facility at Stone Cellar was comfortable in the meadow with trees for high lining the stock. The weather was perfect and the food was terrific, thanks to BCH member and 4H leader, Tom Celio and his superlative cooking skills.

### **BCHC San Diego Unit 2014 Recap**

Submitted by Theresia Jorgensen

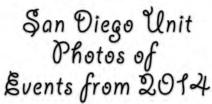
The BCHC San Diego Unit has had another full year of events and representing equestrians in access and trail issues. As part of a committee Members of the unit working with California State Parks recently completed over two years of negotiating for a new General Plan for Rancho Cuyamaca State Park. The park has now started creating its first Roads and Trails Plan and members of Backcountry Horsemen will continue to be part of the process to insure that the equestrian community is represented appropriately in the creation and implementation of the plan.

Members of the same committee have been meeting with State Parks staff to resolve issues that have developed this year concerning Los Vaqueros Group Camp and Green Valley Equestrian Camps in Rancho Cuyamaca State Park. Local park managers (with direction from Sacramento) have made the decision to fill open sites in Green Valley with non-equestrian campers and to allow the reservation of Los Vaqueros Group Camp by non-equestrian groups. Several meetings have been held between equestrians, State Parks staff, and local legislators to try to resolve the issues created by this mixing and members of the committee will continue to meet with State Parks staff to insure that the needs of the equestrian community are addressed. State Parks Director Lisa Mangat and members of the State Parks Commission visited Cuyamaca State Park recently and members of the San Diego Unit, along with other equestrians, had the opportunity to speak one-on-one with them concerning equestrian issues in Cuyamaca Park and statewide.

The San Diego Unit of BCHC will continue to support and develop a positive, hands-on working relationship with California State Parks and the other federal, state and local land managers in our area by attending meetings, being part of committees, organizing and leading work parties, and taking the time to be part of the process. As part of this, San Diego Unit members of BCHC this summer continued to support the United State Forest Service by making several trips packing water and supplies for trail crews into the Agua Tibia Wilderness of the Cleveland National Forest, organized and led our yearly trail clearing work party and campout at Los Vaqueros Group Equestrian Camp in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, and did our yearly work party and campout at Vern Whittaker Horse Camp to clear the Lower Willows Trail in Anza Borrego Desert State Park. The unit sponsored three clinics this year- Horse Camping, Stock Hauling and Trailer Safety, and Stock Packing- and an ACTHA ride. Unit members staffed the booth and represented BCHC at the California State Trails and Greenways Conference and were part of the committee that organized and ran the 2014 BCHC Rendezvous in Norco.

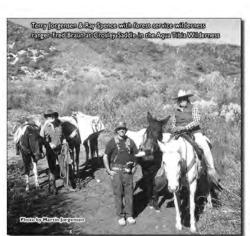
Despite our close proximity to urban development, we have federal and state wilderness areas, forests and parks in our backyard. The land managers we work with often represent these agencies but it is not uncommon for us to be negotiating with counties, municipalities, water districts, fish and wildlife, or even private landowners. We understand the process that these entities have to go through to make land management decisions now days and we understand that equestrians are not the only shareholders they have to listen to when they make those decisions. We believe that all of the parties in these negotiations deserve the right to be treated with respect, but our politeness should never be confused with weakness and we will continue to aggressively defend the right for equestrians (and all other trail users) to access and enjoy our public lands.













#### PARTY HARDY!!! WORK PARTY THAT IS

REPORT FROM LAKE-MENDO UNIT Submitted by Carol Notaro

Our unit has been working hard all around Lake and Mendocino Counties. Specifically, we have been working with the Covelo Ranger District for the Mendocino National Forest and Yolla Bolly Wilderness replacing signs which were either destroyed by fire or which have been vandalized or deteriorated with age. We have also been clearing trails in the Yolla Bolly. Since beginning our partnership with the Covelo Range District, the Upper Lake Ranger District as has if we would be interested in replacing (and placing) signs and clearing trails in the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area.

We have that project slated for 2015 as well as finishing the signage in the Yolla Bolly and further development of the Dixie Glade and Green Springs camps with campfire pits and highline poles.

*Cache Creek - Red Bud Trail:* A small but industrious work party headed to the BLM Red Bud Trail head at Cache Creek in late November. Apparently, there was a large tree across the trail that needed to be removed.

Thanks to Bill Ruddock, Paul Villanueva, Debbie Watson, Dave Rinker and Gayle Kompf. I apologize to any of you who I have forgotten.

**Boggs Mountain:** There was a ride/work party at Boggs Mountain and work was performed on the fire pit and picnic table. Paul chipped away all the old mortar on the fire pit. He then mixed and mortared the rocks back into place.

Paul removed the picnic table top and Carol, Debbie and Diane tore out the bent leg section. We then straightened it and put it back into place.

Our unit has also been working with and in the community in Lake County with respect to sharing trail. A Wag, Walk and Ride event was held at Boggs Mountain. The purpose of this event was to educate hikers and bicyclers about horses and their behavior when startled by suddenly coming upon a hiker or having a bicyclist come up silently and quickly behind them. Paul Villanueva gave a great packing demonstration as well.

Finally, our Unit is working with the Army Corps of Engineers at Lake Mendocino for design and development of a horse camp near the boat camp on the east side of the lake complete with fire pits/rings and highline poles. This will be a ride/pack-in only camp and the work should begin in 2015.



Mule skinner Deb!



Debbie Watson hard at work



eal Notaro works with the hand saw..



Dan Mini (left) and Bill Knispel cutting a LARGE tree.



Clearing the trail

2014Work in and around Mendocino

Ca

National Forest, Yolla Bolly Wilderness , Cache Creek - Red Bud Tr

Cache Creek - Red Bud Trail and Boggs Mountain





Thanks to our crew



Debbie and Diane working to clear the hole for replacement of the base.



Paul and Debbie giving the packing demonstration (Bennie the mule, too).

### Site Inspection at Kelty Meadow

Submitted by Joyce Granger, Sierra Freepackers Vice President

The Kelty Meadow Campground Restoration project has been completed. The Backcountry Horsemen of California Sierra Freepackers Unit is especially pleased and thankful to the Bass Lake Ranger District of the Sierra National Forest & for all the volunteers who helped bring this project to completion.

In 2012 the Sierra Freepacker unit received a grant from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. Though there were many aspects to this project one of the most significant accomplishments would be the installation of the solar livestock water development. By involving expertise from the local community and volunteers the seemingly high tech approach, has been low maintenance and provides a clean source of fresh water to the livestock, readily available at close proximity to the campground, while eliminating the need for stock to go to the creek which had negative impacts to the stream bank, riparian vegetation and overall water quality.

Stream channel restoration was another major part of the grant project. The stream channel conditions were improved through construction of a riparian exclosure (Buck-and Pole fencing) and planting of native willow and riparian vegetation sod plugs. The project conserved 0.6 miles of

stream bank (restored 350 lineal feet of stream bank), which is suitable habitat for Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog, a federally listed species. The project restored and mitigated riding stock and cattle grazing impacts to the stream channel. - The project also conserved montane wet meadow riparian habitat and improved meadow hydrologic function in Kelty Meadow, which is suitable habitat for the Great gray owl, a Forest Service sensitive species. One of the impressive notations from this part of the project has been the vegetation recovery, including the success of the willow plantings, within the riparian exclosure and the passive restoration that resulted from restricting access to the stream bank. The improvement is visually evident & quite impressive.





This 2 year project also included installing Bear Boxes for proper food storage, Hitching Rails at each camp site along with construction of several horse pens for overnight camping. 1,532 hours of volunteer labor contributed to this project by the Sierra Freepackers. In-kind contributions from the Forest Service resulted in a combined total value of \$47,157.00. Funding for this project has been provided by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy an agency of the State California.

On Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> 2014 project leader Sarah Campe from The Sierra Nevada Conservancy came out to Kelty Meadow Campground and did a site inspection. Campe was very impressed with the quality of work, the fact that the project was completed on time and under budget. She was equally impressed by the diverse groups of people who volunteered and/or donated in-kind labor. She was given a tour of the campground noting that the campground experience would definitely be enhanced by the upgraded infrastructure. She viewed the restoration work at the stream channel. Of particular interest to her was how the solar pump delivered water to the water trough for livestock. Sierra Freepackers member John Granger explained the workings of the solar panel and pump. Other members of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy attended along with Forest Service personal and Sierra Freepacker members.

It should be noted that the partnership between the Sierra Freepackers Unit of the Backcountry Horsemen of California and the Bass Lake Ranger District of the Sierra National Forest was bolstered as a result of this project and new proposals for this campground and other areas on the District are now being considered as a result of this strengthened working relationship. The Forest Service provided laborers (road and fire crews) to assist



John Devere, Tara Stephenson, & Cathy Miller



L to R:Mary Odell, Cathy Miller, Linda Sadler, Brenda Cordes, John & Joyce Grange



Duane Peverill, & Joyce Granger



Leak Pen(FS), Mary Odell & Patricia Vallentyne

with delivery of materials to the project site. The permittee provided labor to construct the riparian exclosure and communication was improved as a result of this project. A local solar energy contractor provided expertise with the installation of the solar water pump and the system was designed simply with easy maintenance and technical support. A local feed store assisted with storing materials until the project could be accessed and assisted with loading and unloading materials when they were first delivered from out of the area. Consultation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) on this project also led to additional collaboration and project expertise. Sierra Freepackers Unit membership has doubled in size since the grant was awarded. Continued collaboration is on-going with the very active Sierra Freepackers Unit of the Backcountry Horsemen and the Bass Lake Ranger District through meetings, updates and communication with District specialists that have been previously involved with the grant proposal and implementation. The Sierra Freepackers Unit, in partnership with the Forest Service, is continuing to maintain riding trails in and around Kelty Meadow Campground. The needed improvements focused on under the grant have been completed. The Sierra Freepackers recognizing additional areas that are in need of improvement to protect resources and water quality including the campground loop road and bathrooms are pursuing additional grant opportunities to improve the campground.



#### MAIL YOUR BCHC MEMBERSHIPS TO:

BCHC Membership 1280 State Rt. 208, Yerington, NV 89447



### **Logan Coach Rebate Program**

**Exclusive to BCH Members** 

As a special rebate for Backcountry Horseman members, Logan Coach will give the following rebates/donations when you purchase a new Logan Coach trailer:

- .5% of Retail Price Paid Donated to BCH State Organization
- .5% of Retail Price Paid Donated to Customer's Local BCH Chapter
- .5% of Retail Price Paid as Rebate back to Customer
   Ask Your Logan Coach Dealer for details.

See the 2012 Logan Coach Line at www.LoganCoach.com

All you will need to get the rebates sent out is a copy of the invoice for the Logan trailer you purchased from the retail purchaser & what your unit & state is.

You can send that directly to Steve Hales ~ Logan Coach
Phone (435) 752-3737 Fax (435) 752-3756



The deadline for submissions for the SPRING/SUMMER 2015 EDITION

of the **Backcountry News** is:

April 15, 2015

Send submissions to BCHC.News@gmail.com or mail to: Rhonda Strickland Restless Designs 27150 Shadel Rd. SPC 119, Sun City, CA 92586

How is your unit getting involved with youth?



BCHC Sierra Freepacker members judging FFA members on their packing skills. Debbie McDougald, Denise Howse Robinson and Mary Schmidt Odell — at Minarets High.



# Welcome, New Members!

#### **WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!**

Antelope Valley Suzanne Craig

Eastern Sierra Cynthia P. McCarthy

Gary and Dorothy Waite

High Sierra Dena Flores

Karl and Glenda Johnson

Tamara Nuno

Kern River Valley

Kern Sierra

Patrick and Carrie Shreffler Rich and Dee Summer Brito Sarah Christie and Dan York

Deborah Sheridan

Lake Mendo Gary and Diane Ford

Eric Williams and Bob Williams

Los Padres Ann Leslie Albanese

Dina Aldredge

Debbie and John Bachman

Helene Darcel Lori Dunn

Jim and Cheryl Harrison

Lisa Hogue

Doug Houston and Cindy Roller

Daniel McKinsey and Jacob Portman

Julie and Gary McKinsey

Kathe Medvigy Erin Morrisey

Kathy Osgood and Mike Mulkey

Georgina Anne Previtera

Sarah Rivers Hazel Rosen Lynn Scheck

Sharon, David and Jared Staton

Barbara West Mary Horn Wood

Mid Valley Tyler Alanis-Taylor

Nance Clardy

Carmen Dollarhyde David Harrison Julia Heller

Judy Krigbaum and David Krigbaum Jr.

Melissa Merrihew Steven Peeples

Dennis M. and Michee Serpa Andy and Carol Vanheegmoed Timothy and Michaela Durbin

Mother Lode Timothy and Michaela Durbin Peter J, Susan and DeLisa Fracchia

Daniel and Nicole Henry

**NEW MEMBERS,** continued

Mother Lode (cont'd) Merrill Kagen-Weston and Brad Weston

Redshank Riders Susan and Nicole Kontoff

Ed and Mary Ann Puett

Cezanne Ryerson

Redwood Kim Chamberlain

Susan, Bill and Estelle Wardrip

San Diego Christopher and Tara Dye

Rochelle Hancock

Catherine and Tom Mulligan

San Gorgonio Pass Kyla Bolger

Joy Bruce

San Joaquin Sierra Guy Adams

**Tiffany Beechinor** 

**Ruth Cramer** 

Don W. and Mary Dutra

Carla Hawks

Sequoia Debra and Kinsey Blomgren

Dan Jensen and Carolyn Donlin

Darren Moench

Shasta Trinity Lindsey A. Davis

Barbara Dillman

Mary Pylman

Sierra Freepackers Barabar LaRae Brown and Juli Bohlman

Karen Daughrity Brenda Joseph

Sutter Buttes Kristin Carter

Susan Hammontre

Top of the State Barbara Howell

These new members have joined BCHC between August and December 2014

#### WANT TO START A NEW UNIT?

If there is no unit in your area and you are interested in starting one, contact BCHC Secretary Kaye Bruns for more information.

(661) 803-5075

# **Information**





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

www.goodsearch.com

#### 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 <a href="https://www.zamzuu.com/bchc">www.zamzuu.com/bchc</a>

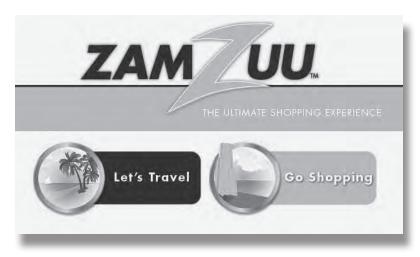
Some of the key features you'll find on the BCHC shopping website include:

- 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!

Book all travel at: www.ytbtravel.com/bchc



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

# 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!** 

<u>PLEASE NOTE</u>: BCHC Treasurer Lynn Joiner has a new email address. When corresponding with Lynn, please use the following email address:

lynnjoiner7@gmail.com

Here it is 2015!! Time is going by so quickly these days.

Please take a look at the latest membership application. There are some new options that will make joing BCH better, easier to remember and even save you some money.

And remember, this paper cannot have any content unless you, members, supply it. We love to see all the happenings for each unit. Some we have not heard from in a very long time. Even if it's a story about a fun ride or camp out you did, we would love to hear about it.

I want to remind you that if you want to see more special features and unit news, please be sure to submit your articles and photos to me at (bchcnews@gmail.com) by April 15th for the Spring/Summer 2015 edition.

Cheers! Here's to a healthy, properous and fun year!! Happy packing and be safe!

~ Rhonda L . Strickland ~ Redshank Riders Unit

# 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.

#### **BENEFACTORS**

Antelope Valley Stephen and Mary Ann Colf

Heidi Furer

Eastern Sierra Bill Carter

Susie L. Harms

Michelle Layne (Tom's Place Resort)

James B. and Judy L. Waggoner

High Sierra Juli Beale – Van and David Van

Richard and Dena Cochran
Carl and Frances Dobler

Ruth Gerson Nancy Hamill

Dennis and Cathlyn Keller

Kern River Valley Joy and Jack Wikoff

Kern Sierra Brad Allen of Rosedale Farrier Supply

Robert L. Anderson

Boyce 'Buzz' R. and Joann F. Caffee

Mylon Filkins, DVM and Pat Larry and Pat Mumford

Lake-Mendo Carol S. and Bill Biggs

Los Padres Doug and Leanne L. Campbell

Robin Cederlof

William Chaides and Nancy Kimmell

Si and Karen Jenkins Janice and Phillip Kissel

James McGarry

Glenn and Karen Teixeira

Mid Valley Karen Barindelli

Jay and Elizabeth Barnes Gary A. and Michelle L. Cain

Dennise A. Davis

Lloyd and Susan Erlandson

Carol Jo Hargreaves and Larry Schneider

David and Kristine Kraft Bob and Sandra Magee MID VALLEY UNIT - BCHC

#### BENEFACTORS, continued

Mother Lode Ken and Gerry Bourn

Al Jagow

Karen Schwartz

North Bay Julie Araiza and Miranda Bender

Alan and Carolyn Mahoney

Sarah and David Schoen

Redwood Maris Hawkins San Diego Allie Heary

San Gorgonio Pass Susanne Holenstein

Peter and Diana Kriger Ron and Korky Robertson

San Joaquin Sierra Kenneth and Diane Dalby

Fred and Suzanne Gleason

Larry Nishma Knapp-Yosemite Trls Pk Sta

Stephen and Jill Naylon

Santa Ana River David Roy and Pamela Chevallier Sequoia Kathryn C. and John E. Bennett

Steve Ladrigan

J. Michael and Linda L. Lane

Laure Stern

Jamie Wilson, DVM

Shasta Trinity Dean and Laura Angelides

Alice Eileen Cox

Sierra Freepackers Joyce and John Granger

Sutter Buttes Ben DuBose and Elizabeth May

Corky Layne Ulla Park

#### **PATRONS**

High Sierra Jeff and Alice Kampen

Marty Morehart

Karl and Trish Pendegraft

Mid Valley Terri Arington

Lloyd and Susan Erlandson

Dennis M. and Loretta Serpa

Redshank Riders Ken and Allison Renck

Sequoia Jim and Pat Holly

Larry and Jody Young

#### **MT. WHITNEY**

Kern River Valley \*Ken and Betty Finch

\*A notation to Ken and Betty Finch's recent Mt. Whitney membership. It is "*In memory of Toby Horst*"

# **BCHC Units Around the State**

#### Antelope Valley

PO Box 84 Pearblossom, CA 93553 Irma Ann Carle iacarle@yahoo.com

#### Eastern Sierra

c/o 420 N. Mountain View Rd Bishop, CA 93514 Phil McDowell (760) 872-9951 cjmbishop@aol.com

#### High Country

PO Box 1047 Alturas, CA 96101-1047 Stig Han (530) 640-1428 stigman.sh@gmail.com

#### High Sierra

PO Box 6938 Visalia, CA 93278-4427 Christine Burns (559) 623-2288 casheepmom@yahoo.com

#### Kern River Valley

3561 Jeffrey St. Lake Isabella, CA 93240 Steve Horst (661) 867-2777 horststephenc@yahoo.com

#### Kern Sierra

16347 Stephenie Rd. Bakersfield, CA 93314-9669 Curtis Harms (661) 833-3100 mulerider@prodigy.net

#### Lake-Mendo

PO Box 191 Potter Valley, CA 95469-0191 Paul Villanueva (707) 263-0147 Villan13@pacific.net

#### Los Padres

PO Box 6773 Santa Maria, CA 93456-6773 Bill Chaides (805) 471-1197 bchaides@tcsn.net

#### Mid Valley

PO Box 1709 Modesto, CA 95353 Carl Perry (209) 632-9100 hayloftpigeon@aol.com

#### Mother Lode

PO Box 2088 Elk Grove, CA 95759-2088 Mike Kohlbaker (916) 214-6505 4horsen@sbcglobal.net

#### North Bay

PO Box 9435 Santa Rosa, CA 95405 Thor Bodtker (415) 328-4545 thunder.t@hotmail.com

#### Redshank Riders

PO Box 383 Aguanga, CA 92536-0383 Anne York (951) 662-2928 anne@starfiredesignstudio.com

#### Redwood

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

#### San Diego

236 Oak St Ramona, CA 92065-1952 Patty Heyden (619) 561-0787 pheyden54@gmail.com

#### San Gorgonio Pass

PO Box 321 Calimesa, CA 92320 Pete Kriger (909) 910-4619 pkrigerjr@yahoo.com

#### San Joaquin Sierra

PO Box 25693 Fresno, CA 93729-5693 Joe Kaminski (559) 7433-9170 kaminskiclan@gmail.com

#### Santa Ana River

PO Box 736 Norco, CA 92860-8062 Roland Schmitz (951) 833-6403 roland@mtnrider.com

#### Sequoia

PO Box 456 Springville, CA 93265-0579 Sandy Oates (559) 784-4912 president@bchc-sequoia.org

#### Shasta Trinity

10855 Beaver Rd Oak Run, CA 96069-9602 Alan Hill (530) 221-8531 athill2011@gmail.com

#### Sierra Freepackers

PO Box 64 Oakhurst, CA 93644-0064 Mary Odell (559) 658-7563 modell@sti.net

#### Sutter Buttes

110 Medley Lane Oroville, CA 95965 Bob Gage (530) 521-7369 bobgage@wildblue.net

#### Top of the State

PO Box 461 Etna, CA 96027-0461 Doug Kaufner (530) 340-0667 1whitemule4luck@gmail.com

### Questions? Membership Matters

Contact 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? Use

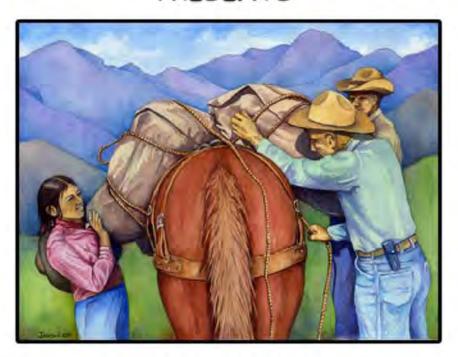
BCHC
EARNS 60%
OF THE
COMMISSIONS!
For the Latest Deals
go to



### 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!
   It's that simple!

# BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA PRESENTS



Packing Our Youth Into The Future

### THE 28<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RENDEZVOUS MARCH 13 - 15, 2015

CALAVERAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS FROGTOWN ROAD ANGELS CAMP, CA

### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ~ ADMISSION IS FREE

#### Events Include:

- Clinicians Jerry Tindell and JoDe Collins Large Animal Rescue Dutch Oven Cooking
  - Dinner & Auction Beer, Wine & Cheese Tasting Pack Scramble
    - Western Art Show Kids Activities Cowboy Church
      - Vendors, Vendors, and more Vendors

### **Featuring Friday Night Concert:**

### **DAVE STAMEY**

Nationally Acclaimed Cowboy Entertainer ~ www.davestamey.com Advance Tickets: \$25.00 / At the Door: \$30.00 Buy tickets Early at www.bchcalifornia.org

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION AND EVENT PACKETS, visit bchcalifornia.org

Or contact Mike Kohlbaker at (916) 214-6505 or email: 4horsen@sbcglobal.net Or Lloyd Erlandson at (209) 761-3942 or email: lloyd.erlandson0@gmail.com