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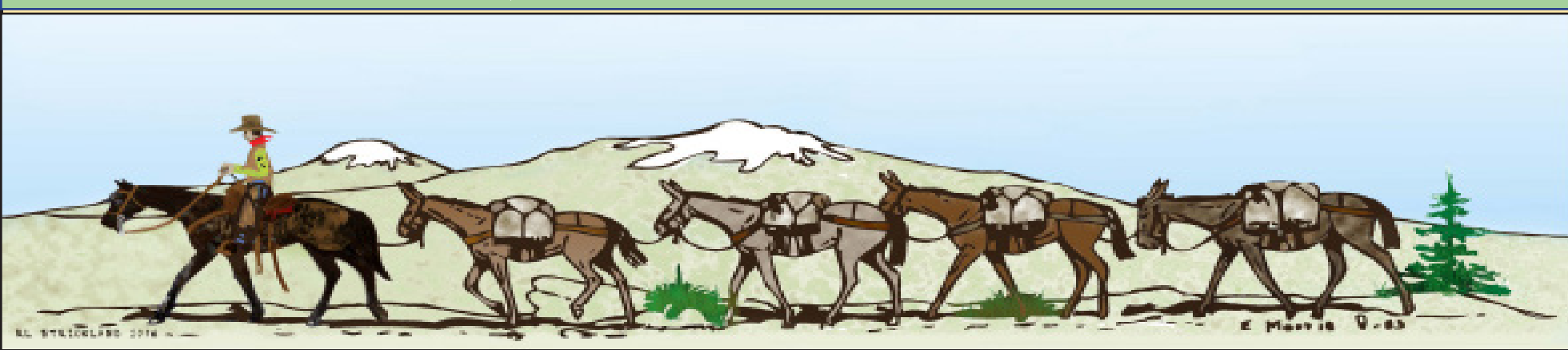
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The Backcountry News

Volume 37, Issue 2

The Official Publication of Backcountry Horsemen of California

SPRING 2025



TOP BCHC HONORS GO TO...

Honoring a Trailblazer: Susie Patton Receives Ben York Award

Article by CJ Hargreaves. Photo by
Jamie Wilson, DVM.

Susie Patton was presented
the Ben York Trailblazer Award
at Rendezvous - a fitting tribute
to her remarkable contributions,
incredible dedication, and
unwavering commitment to the

Backcountry Horsemen of California.

For more than 12 years, Susie Patton has been the rock behind BCHC's operations, serving as Secretary through the terms of four different Presidents: Waller, Erlandson, King, and Hughes. Before that, she was Vice President of Public Lands, making sure our trails and access stayed protected.

BCHC President Mike Hughes summed it up best: "*Susie puts BCHC's*

See **TRAILBLAZER**, continued on Page 10



Celebrating a Champion of the Trails: "Doc" Carter Receives Ann Lange Award

Article by CJ Hargreaves. Photo from
The Sheet News, 2017.

A second proud moment for the
Eastern Sierra Unit at this year's
BCHC Rendezvous was pre-
sentation of the prestigious Ann
Lange Award to Dr. William (Bill)

Carter, better known to many as "Doc." A retired Bishop optometrist with a deep passion for public lands, Doc was honored for his tireless efforts to improve trails and advocate for their preservation.

The Ann Lange Award, named for one of BCHC's founding members and a fierce champion for stock use trails, recognizes individuals who show true heart and grit for public lands. Ann, who passed away in 2020, made her mark not just in BCHC and BCHA, but also on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Recipients of her namesake award are chosen

See **CHAMPION**, continued on Page 17

The Backcountry News

An internal publication of the Backcountry Horsemen of California, Inc.

Editor Carol Jo Hargreaves

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Who is BCHC? The Backcountry Horsemen of California, Inc. is a 501(c)3 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 articles and/or advertisements that are not consistent 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 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.

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
Summer 2025 Edition	July 15, 2025
Fall 2025 Edition	October 15, 2025
Winter 2026 Edition	January 15, 2026
Spring 2026 Edition	April 15, 2026

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

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

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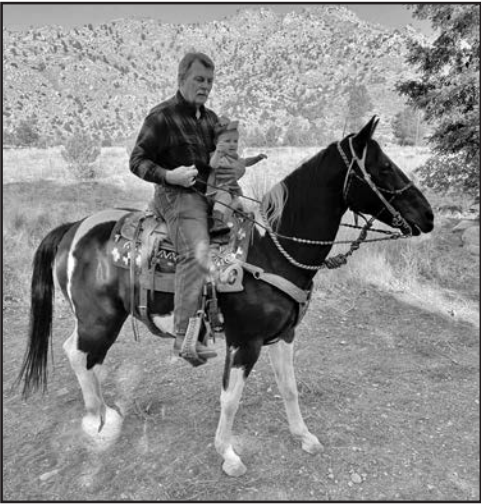
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For more BCHC information, see our website: bchcalifornia.org

PRESIDENT'S PAGE



**BCHC President
Mike Hughes**

JOB WELL DONE!

Well, here we are again, another President's Message after another incredible Rendezvous. For all of you who attended and/or contributed to the event, a great big thank you from this author.

As most of the BCHC knowledgeable are aware this is BCHC's big opportunity to open our outreach beyond the traditional horse and mule ownership groups. We are here to build partnerships

with the community, general public and other enthusiasts who love and enjoy the great outdoors.

Our primary objective is to educate those with whom we come into contact about the importance of our calling, our mission, the knowledge we possess, and the influence we wield, not only today, but also into the future. We accomplish this through a wide array of clinics, events, strategies, and friendly personal interactions. To that end this Rendezvous was a roaring success.

Resources were gathered from various areas and sources to be brought together at the Rolling Hills Casino Equestrian Center in Corning, California. The Rendezvous Committee consisting of Larry Shuman, Michelle Machado Wood and Cindy McMurry worked in concert with the state's Rendezvous individuals of Lynn Joiner, Susie and Troy Patton, Chip Herzig and Jamie Wilson.

The accommodations were sublime, entertainment excellent and attendance noteworthy. Unit Top Hand Awards were dispensed, (applause, please), Education awards given, (applause, please), table decoration winner announced, and as a highlight to the evening I was gratified to award the special Ben York Award to a long time, hardworking, well deserving member, Susie Patton, state secretary (extended applause, please).

The cowboy poets let 'er rip and displayed a depth of talent including those from last minute spontaneous performances. The live auction was lively and not to be outdone, the silent auction was the largest in memory. Again, a great big thank you for all who participated.

Now on to the second and equally important part of the Rendezvous - the looming questions of "Did we make any money", "Were the trail trials a success", "Were the R.V. spots money makers," etc., etc.? Well, currently the final numbers are yet to be determined. However, we hold

out hope that with the incredible amount of expended volunteer hours, we can come out on top and into the black column. We may not always agree on everything we do, but we can always agree that what we do is important. With that stated, we will move into the spring and the next BCHC projects awaiting us. Hopefully, we can approach this with a spring in our steps because of the knowledge of a job well done.

Gratefully submitted,
Mike Hughes, BCHC President

BCHC PICKS 2025 INTERN

By Lucy Badenhoop, BCHC Internship Committee Chair

The BCHC Internship Committee is pleased to announce that Mathilda Barr of Los Angeles, California, has accepted the 2025 position to train with the U.S. Forest Service Region 5 Center of Excellence located in the Inyo National Forest. She was the top pick of 25 applicants.

Mathilda is a graduating senior at Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minnesota. She is originally from Los Angeles and grew up camping, skiing, and hiking across the Eastern Sierra. When she was eight, she decided her favorite way to experience the wilderness was looking down at a trail through a pair of horse (or mule) ears. This has never changed.



Adventures with horses have taken her to show jumping competitions across Southern California, horse trekking through Mongolia, galloping across beaches in Morocco, and packing for three summers with Philmont Scout Ranch in the New Mexico Rockies.

Mathilda is incredibly excited to learn and grow as an Intern with the Center of Excellence and the BCHC. We are equally excited to have her in the Intern Program.

BCHC NEWS



BCHC Editor
Carol Jo Hargreaves

THE HEART OF BCHC: RECOGNIZING VOLUNTEERS

Backcountry Horsemen of California (BCHC) is proud to be “an all-volunteer organization” wherein no one is paid for the work they do whether it’s clearing trails, attending meetings, organizing events, hauling supplies, or mentoring new members. We all keep BCHC’s mission alive without expectation of thanks or recognition.

But taking the time to recognize and celebrate our volunteers is *essential* to the health of our organization and the future of our work.

Volunteers give their time, energy, and expertise for free. Their motivation often comes from a deep love for the land, for horses and mules, and for the communities they serve. When we acknowledge their efforts - whether it’s through a simple “thank you,” a handshake, or an award - we’re telling them that their work matters, that it’s seen, and that it makes a real difference.

Recognition fuels morale. It keeps people engaged. It encourages new volunteers to step forward and seasoned ones to keep going, even when the work gets hard. It builds a stronger, more connected community where everyone feels valued.

The annual Rendezvous is a place where outstanding volunteers are publicly recognized. Awards like the Ben York Trailblazer Award and the Ann Lange Award are an exciting way to spotlight extraordinary service but *every* volunteer - whether they’ve logged hundreds of hours on the trail or showed up for their first clean-up day - deserves to feel appreciated.

When recognition becomes a regular part of our BCHC culture, it strengthens everything we do. It reminds us that each contribution, big or small, pushes our mission forward. It encourages a spirit of service and sets a positive example for new members and younger generations.

It’s not just about saying “thank you.” It’s about building a team where people know they belong, where their work is respected, and where their passion is valued.

When awards are presented at Rendezvous, be respectful and listen. The next time you’re out on a work party, at a unit meeting, or even reading through this newspaper, take a moment to reach out and tell a volunteer you appreciate what they do.

It truly *does* matter.



BCHC Secretary
Susie Patton

RENDEZVOUS RECAP

By Susie Patton, Rendezvous Secretary

The 2025 Rendezvous was held at the beautiful Rolling Hills Equestrian Center and, boy, did they roll out the red carpet for us! We had all events under the roofs and the weather was beautiful.

Many thanks to Larry Shuman, Cindy McMurry and Michelle Machado Woods and the hard-working teams they put together to make the Rendezvous a

success. There were a variety of informative classes, vendors with goods to purchase, fun competitions, and good friends new and old.

The Trail Trials and the Western Art show had many participants, the Dutch oven cooking was delicious, the vendor appreciation wine tasting was fun, and the dinners, awards, auctions, and cowboy poets were great.

Many thanks go out to the members of Shasta Trinity, High Country, and Top of the State units for their wonderful donations to the auctions. We had pack saddles, a kid’s show saddle, and a great ranch saddle that were donated and really helped the auction. Also, a guitar that had been purchased many years ago at a Tulare Rendezvous was brought in and donated to the auction. Thanks again to each of you for all the generous donations.

All in all, everyone had a great time at a great venue.

Remember to let the Editor know, by the newsletter deadline, if you would like extra copies of the paper printed to distribute at upcoming events/activities. Send the number of papers you would like and the mailing address of the person to whom they should be sent.

DEADLINE **FOR SUMMER 2025 EDITION**

of the Backcountry News is: **JULY 15, 2025**

Send submissions to:

BCHC Editor at

BCHC_Newsletter@bchcalifornia.org

BCHC NEWS

STEP UP TO LEAD: BCHC Board Officer Elections Coming This Fall

By Michael King, BCHC Nominating Committee Chair

Hello, Backcountry Horsemen Members:

Here we are in the spring of the year, and on cue is my annual solicitation of members to consider running for leadership positions on the BCHC Board of Directors.

Some current officers will be terming out and others have decided to step down from their very long-held positions. At present we are looking for candidates to run for the opening positions of President, Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President of Public Lands.

Just about six months away, elections will be held to fill these positions at the State Board of Directors meeting in October 2025. We are looking for committed individuals to consider throwing their hats in the ring and becoming part of the new team to lead BCHC into the future.

In the past, many members have expressed their desire to infuse new blood and ideas into our organization. As we move into the future, and as our nation continues to evolve politically with new operational realities, there will be future challenges aplenty to be addressed. New ideas will certainly be in order.

Job descriptions for all positions may be found in the BCHC, Inc. 501c4 (Article VII, Section 1) and BCHC Education Fund, Inc. 501c3 Bylaws (Article 4, Sections 1-11), available on the BCHC website at: [bchcalifornia.org/Documents & Forms](http://bchcalifornia.org/Documents&Forms).

Here is your opportunity. Please contact me at mickngig@sbcglobal.net or by telephone (209) 606-8323 to become a candidate for any one of these positions in your interest zone. You may also communicate your interest to Chip Herzig via email at chipherzig@gmail.com or by telephone (775) 463-3634; or to Lloyd Erlandson at lloyd.erlandson0@gmail.com or by telephone (209) 761-3942.

Please give this message some very serious thought. It's extremely important. BCHC is looking for your future leadership potential.

I certainly hope to hear from many qualified members. Thanks to all for your consideration of this opportunity.



STATE BCHC FACEBOOK PAGE IS BACK!

By Kammi Montanero and Carol Jo Hargreaves

The State BCHC Facebook page is back in service! I'm sure some of you have noticed the page stopped coming up in your feed and the last posting was over a year old. BCHC has had its page since 2009 and accumulated almost 7,500 Followers. Unfortunately, access to the page was lost when the previous Admin left, and no replacement was designated in advance. With the persistence of CJ Hargreaves and members of the BCHC Executive Committee, including a great deal of online correspondence and document submission with Facebook personnel, access to BCHC's Facebook Page was restored.

Going forward there will be several people serving as Admins. The primary Admin is Kammi Montanero, secretary of Manzanita Riders Unit and a Wilderness Rider. As your new BCHC Facebook Admin, Kammi's goal is to connect California's units and share what we are all up to including fun events, service projects and fundraising. Units are so diverse in California, it will be useful to see what others are doing. Another goal is to unite BCHC with Back Country Horsemen in other states to share information and keep us all connected.

By doing this type of virtual outreach, we increase BCHC's visibility, attract more people to engage and possibly obtain new members. This works at an even higher level if you as a member share the posts on your personal Facebook wall so that your Facebook Friends and Friends of Friends see BCHC's posts.

At the time of this writing, BCHC has 7,389 Followers on Facebook. Activity is increasing daily. Kammi plans to see which BCHC units are using Facebook and will repost their events and informational posts for all to see on the state BCHC page. This is a work in progress and the rewards will be many for all of us throughout the state and country. Kammi is looking forward to reposting and seeing what's happening with all of you.

BCHC sincerely thanks Kammi Montanero for her willingness to take on this important responsibility!



EDUCATION



**BCHC Co-VP of Education
Ruthie Heuer**



**BCHC Co-VP of Education
Denise Robinson**

EDUCATION UPDATE

UNITS AND TRAIL RIDES

This is the time of year that many units are having rides and fun. We want to be sure everyone has a great and safe time! To achieve this, everyone on the ride needs to be working together. We strongly suggest reviewing the State's flyer titled "How to Have a Safe and Enjoyable Trail Ride." Go to BCHCalifornia.org, hit Documents & Forms, and follow all the way down to Flyers. Please read to all participants, hand this out, it's never too late to review and remind folks about safety!

RENDEZVOUS CLASSES AND CORE LNT CLASSES

ATTENTION: If you forgot to hand in your checked off page of classes attended at the Rendezvous, please mail them ASAP to Ruthie. Her address is at the bottom of your page. The classes will be entered in the database, and you may pick up your pin next year. Remember, any five classes on that page and you earn your first pin. Gail Inman has volunteered to create this computerized program and it will then be saved and owned by BCHC. This should be much better than our beginning paper folders of the past.

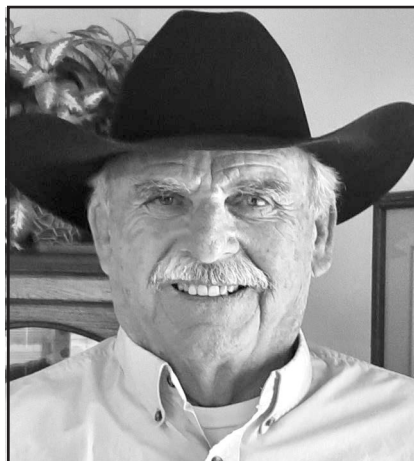
MASTER LEAVE NO TRACE STOCK COURSE AND WILDERNESS RIDER COURSE

This five-day course is planned for October 6 – 10, 2025. The Center of Excellence will be hosting us in the northern part of the state at the Bowerman Barn. This location is north of Weaverville on Hwy 3. The goal of BCHC over the years is to have at least one Master LNT/ Wilderness Rider in each unit throughout the state. Some units have more but we strongly suggest that each unit consider the importance and encourage someone in their unit to enroll for this fall. The units should support by sharing the cost and the participant should return to help the unit with education. There are only 10 participants accepted for the course. We try to let our membership know before we publish the dates on the LNT site. Please contact Denise or Ruthie if interested.

ATTENTION ALL RETIRED WILDERNESS RIDERS!

If your vest is gathering dust or taking up space in the closet, please consider donating it back to BCHC. We would like to recycle vests for future classes. It has become extremely hard to find a consistent seamstress and place to embroider the vests. (Keep any badges and nameplate though.) This will help us tremendously. Contact Ruthie or Denise.

PUBLIC LANDS



**BCHC VP of Public Lands
Troy Patton**

PUBLIC LANDS UPDATE

Chief Forester Randy Moore has retired. Prior to going to Washington, D.C., Randy was the Regional Forester for Region 5. Randy was instrumental in setting up and funding the Centers of Excellence that are currently run by Ken Graves and Michael Morris. Last spring in Shasta I had an opportunity to meet and visit with Randy and thank him for all he has done for public lands. He told me at that time that of all the organizations he worked with, BCHC was one of his favorites. He was a good friend to BCHC and I will miss him as will many others. Jody Holzworth from Region 5 also has retired from the Forest Service. She was raised around horses and always understood the equestrian issues. She will be missed.

The Pacific Southwest Region of the USDA Forest Service is hiring permanent wildland firefighters for the 2025 fire year across national forests and grasslands in California. Positions include aviation officers, dispatchers, equipment operators, fire engine operators, fire management officers, fire planners, fire prevention specialists, forestry aids and technicians, hand crew members, helitack crew members, Hotshot crew members, pilots, prescribed fire and fuels specialists, smokejumpers and more.

New hires will increase the agency's capacity to prepare for catastrophic wildfire, implement fire prevention and active forest management strategies, and respond effectively to wildfire emergencies to safeguard lives, property, and natural resources.

As I have mentioned before, I have submitted by resignation as VP of Public Lands, effective December 31, 2025. Any BCHC member is eligible to fill the position and I will assist them in getting started. You may contact me at outdoortroy46@gmail.com, Michael Hughes at 4Hranch@earthlink.net or any member of the Nominating Committee: Chip Herzig at chipherzig@gmail.com , or Michael King at mickngig@sbcglobal.net.

This job requires computer skills with email, texts, website searches and research into legislation. The job also involves traveling to two State Board meetings, one in February and one in October. There is also a summer Executive Committee meeting and several Zoom meetings throughout the year. You are also expected to oversee nominations for the Ann Lange Award and attend Rendezvous and other meetings around the state that involve Public Lands. Every other year you will be expected to attend and conduct public lands training at three officer training venues in the south, central and north parts of the state. All the travel, lodging and food are at your own expense; the State does not pay for this. For an example, last year I logged 6,000 miles for BCHC and expended around \$5,000.

It would be very beneficial, if you are interested, that you contact one of us in time to attend the summer Executive Committee camp out meeting in June or July so you can see how the committee works and learn in a relaxed atmosphere where everyone wants you to succeed and is willing to help you do so.

VOLUNTEER SERVICE



**BCHC Volunteer Service Hours
Coordinator
Cindy McMurry**

RENDEZVOUS AND YOUR VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS

By Cindy McMurry, Volunteer Service Hours
Coordinator

Did you attend Rendezvous or help
organize it this year? If you did here is a
tutorial on how to log your hours!

The first category you will log is Basic
Work. Did you work on setting up on
Wednesday, Thursday and/or Friday?
Log the time you spent working on that.

The next category is Skilled Work. I know
some of you operated equipment, for
example chainsaw, forklift, or tractor.

The next category you will fill out is
Education. Did you take a class or teach
a class? Give yourself an hour for each
one of those classes or demonstrations.
If you are a Wilderness Rider and taught
a class, remember to use a separate

book for your WR report. Those of you that did demonstrations all day,
be sure you log from 8:00 to 5:00.

Your next category is Public Meeting. Did you attend any of the planning
meetings that took place between January 1st and Rendezvous? Be sure
you log those.

Your next category is Admin Service. Some of you will have a lot of time
to log here. You log time spent interfacing with the venue coordinators,
time spent emailing, building and maintaining spreadsheets, tracking
finances or any other office type work. Michele built all those beautiful
posters for our website and Facebook Page; those are Skilled Labor
and are valued at a higher rate. You will also log your time spent with
local vendors to procure tickets, clothing, sponsorships, etc.

The Travel Time and Mileage categories are some other categories that
will have a large entry for some of us. Log the time you spent traveling
to and from meetings and the event itself. If you traveled with another
person, you log your time only. If you drove, you log the miles. Please
round up all figures. Did you forget to reset your odometer? Google
Maps will give you really accurate mileage.

Did you haul stock to ride in the Trail Challenge or use for
demonstrations? Log that mileage under Stock Hauling instead of
Vehicle Mileage.

VOLUNTEER SERVICE, continued from previous column

If you used equipment such as a chainsaw or crosscut saw, log that
under Power Equipment. If you used a tractor or forklift that is logged
under Heavy Equipment.

Stock Used and Stock Days are often confusing categories for people.
Stock Used is just for the number of stock you brought to Rendezvous.

Stock Days is the number of days you used those animals. Did you
do demonstrations all three days with them all? Multiply the number of
stock by the number of days. Did you just ride in the Trail Challenge?
Just log the number of stock for the one day.

And finally, we come to the last category, Donations. Did you donate
an item for the Raffle, Silent Auction or Live Auction? Put the value of
those items here. If you provided a room or meals for our presenters,
log that value here. Log any of your personal printer paper, ink, office
supplies, poster board, signs you made or anything else you did not get
reimbursed for here.

If you have any questions at all, please feel free to email me at
mcmurrywccindy@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP



**BCHC VP of Membership
Chip Herzig**

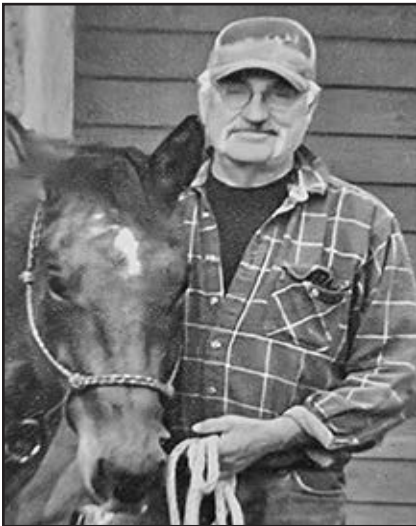
WELL DONE!

A very large well-done goes out to
our northern units for a fantastic
Rendezvous! The setting was very
horse oriented and well run. One of
the indicators I use to tell if we had a
successful Rendezvous is the number
of new members. People join BCHC
when they have had an enjoyable and
educational time at Rendezvous. And,
yes, we got quite a few newbies from
our Rendezvous. So, well done to all
those hard-working northerners who
put on the 2025 Rendezvous!!

REMEMBER

**Send your membership renewals to VP of Membership Chip
Herzig. DO NOT SEND THEM TO BCHA. Sending to the
wrong place will delay payment and cause your membership to
show as “Expired” so you cannot participate in unit events.**

SAW PROGRAM



**BCHC Saw Program Manager
Dan Chartier**

SAW PROGRAM UPDATE

By Dan Chartier

We (BCHC) have made the complete change over to the mandatory USFS Chainsaw/Crosscut teaching curriculum, "The Thinking Sawyer."

Our BCHC Saw Instructor/Evaluators spend a lot of time and go through a great deal to get to a level where the USFS approves them to teach saw classes.

As of now we have "Saw Instructors/Evaluators: in both Chainsaw and Crosscut at the south end, north end, and middle of the state. Our BCHC

Saw Instructors will be reaching out to their unit members and their neighboring units when they have plans to teach a class. There should be at least four to six chainsaw and crosscut classes offered per year throughout the state. If you should get an opportunity to attend an official USFS class, please do but notify us so you can be entered into the USFS database. Hopefully this will make for less travel for our members and Instructors. A lot of you have already been offered these opportunities. Once you complete a class and receive a saw card signed by a USFS official, that card is good on any USFS project in any state. Normally these cards are good for three years, it will state the expiration date on your card.

In the last 12 months BCHC has had 56 current certified sawyers, 38 chainsaw, 18 crosscut, plus 5 Instructors.

A lot of our BCHC back country projects on USFS and BLM ground now require that you have sawyers with current certifications to perform trail work that requires saw work. Please don't jeopardize losing funding or a project by not having current certifications. There has been a lot of work done by many over the years to have all the paperwork, safety forms, signup sheets for your use. These materials are on the BCHC website (bchcalifornia.org) under Documents & Forms or Saw Program.

Up here in the north state the snow is melting, and pack season is not far away once you wade through all the paperwork just to get to the trailhead. Be sure to leg up your stock before heading out. Make sure all the saws and tools are sharp, covered with scabbards and packed well.

I have an aging horse who is now 32 (his name is Blu and he's retired, of course). We took him into the Yolla Bolas when he was 29. I led him in. He packed the lunch with the rest of the string behind him. I got some really good advice from an old friend who packed most of their life in the Trinity Alps, and they knew Ol Blu. Mary said, "Dan, don't ride that horse any farther than you want to hike." I think of that often.

Be safe out there.

BCHA: DEDICATED TO KEEPING TRAILS OPEN FOR EVERYONE



Submitted by Randy Hackbarth, BCHA National Director

EXCERPTS FROM 2024 YEARLY REPORT SUBMITTED TO BCHA

BCHC has 22 units, approximately 2,000 members. California has 18 National Forest, 9 National Parks, 17 National Monuments. All units support trail work with some of the trails being Pacific Crest Trail (approx. 1,700 miles), Tahoe Rim Trail and Pony Express Trail.

The BCHC continues to set aside a percentage of income to build the following funds: "Legal Fund" and "Education Fund."

BCHC units help sponsor some of the Collegiate teams at Mule Days. In 2024 we had:

- 2 Teams - Cal Poly San Luis Obispo sponsored by Los Padres Unit
- 2 Teams - Fresno State
- 1 Team - Modesto Junior College sponsored by Mid Valley Unit
- 1 Team - Reedley Junior College
- 2 Teams - UC Davis sponsored by Mother Lode Unit

BCHC is a provider for Leave No Trace (LNT) offering Master courses specializing in stock. The Center for Outdoor Ethics is based out of Colorado. Our goal is to minimize impact and teach others the seven LNT principles which are:

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare,
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces,
3. Dispose of Waste Properly,
4. Leave What You Find,
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts,
6. Respect Wildlife,
7. Be Considerate of Others.

We include Stock Care and Stock Management in our courses. Denise Robinson and Ruth Heuer attended the annual providers meeting in Colorado via Zoom, in February of this year. Typically, we certify 10 instructors with each course. We have one Master Stock course scheduled for Fall 2025 in northern California at the Center of Excellence.

BCHC also offers a Wilderness Rider program which is the Master course with a twist that partners with the following agencies: BLM, USFS and NPS in

See **BCHA**, continued on Page 9

BCHA: DEDICATED TO KEEPING TRAILS OPEN FOR EVERYONE

BCHA, continued from Page 8

California. This volunteer program has specific items that need to be completed each year.

BCHC has an annual 3-day Rendezvous where education is encouraged by attending the many classes offered during the weekend. These include many LNT topics, packing skills, competitions, collegiate teams and socializing throughout the state. There is a point system for LNT topics for which members can earn pins.

BCHC is working on an education flyer concerning wolves, a new poster promoting membership, and an updated film on Who We Are and What We Do.

BCHC and US Forest Service with Eastern Sierra Conservation Corps present the USFS Pack Stock Center of Excellence Apprenticeship Intern Programs. Six years ago, BCHC initiated this Intern Program to help to retain the packing programs in the Forest Service. Many of the existing stock programs employees are aging out and BCHC wants to make sure highly trained individuals are coming up to make sure the stock programs are continued. BCHC aspires to support Packer Interns each year. The one intern will be located at the Region 5 Center of Excellence (COE) in Mammoth Lakes, California, as they are equipped to best teach the intern all of the goals that we in turn wish this program to achieve. In addition, the Center of Excellence (COE) provides consistent, professional staff that work directly with us to accomplish our similar goals.

The mission of this program is to recruit and train an Intern that may become the new generation of highly skilled packers, trail workers, wilderness managers and volunteers that have a strong desire to protect our public lands, while preserving traditional wilderness skills and maintaining accessibility.

The Packer Intern will develop the skills and knowledge to help perpetuate the common sense use of horses in America’s backcountry and wilderness and will develop the skills and knowledge necessary to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use; whether as an employee of the agencies’ stock program, or as a private citizen.

This year BCHC received 30 applications from interested 18 to 30 year olds to consider. There was a lot of talent represented and it was a tough decision to come up with our new intern, 2024’s Intern was Jenna Haack. The program has been so successful that the term has been extended to 16 weeks for a cost of \$16,400 and half of the cost is now funded with grants. Also, some of the other applicants were hired by pack stations up and down the Sierra.

The Shasta Trinity Unit and Top of the State Unit received a grant to provide a packing intern on the Shasta Trinity and Klamath National Forests. The grant was \$11,300 and the two units provided \$6000 for a total of \$17,300. The California Conservation Corp Foundation provided more funding to extend the time frame to September 30, 2024. We had 32 applicants for the position of which we interviewed 7 that we felt were highly qualified. Both the Forest Service and the BCHC units were extremely happy with the results of our hire. BCHC would like to see this program expanded to give more opportunity to young adults. BCHC is looking at additional grants and into developing a perpetual Endowment Fund for the intern program.

SAVE THE DATES:
2026 BCHA National Board Meeting
Embassy Suites, Kansas City, Missouri
April 12–15, 2026

Back Country Horsemen of America Volunteer Hours Report January 1 to December 31, 2024 BCH CALIFORNIA				
	P1 Totals	Rate per hour/mile/day	Total Value	
Total Basic Hours	3138	\$33.49	\$105,091.62	Calculated per hour
Total Skilled Hours	2032	\$50.23	\$102,067.36	Calculated per hour
Total Trail Recon Hours	823	\$33.49	\$27,562.27	Calculated per hour
Total LNT – Education	2640	\$33.49	\$88,413.60	Calculated per hour
Total Public Meetings	1388	\$33.49	\$46,484.12	Calculated per hour
Total Administrative Service	3432	\$33.49	\$114,937.68	Calculated per hour
Total Travel Time	3492	\$33.49	\$116,947.08	Calculated per hour
Total Hours	16,945			
Wilderness Trail Miles	638			
Other Trail Miles	1397			
Total Trail Miles	2,035			
Personal Vehicle	67096	\$0.67	\$44,954.32	Calculated per mile
Stock Hauling	35705	\$1.35	\$48,201.75	Calculated per mile
Total Travel Miles	102,801			
Power Equipment	41	\$35.00	\$1,435.00	Calculated per hour
Heavy Equipment	10	\$140.00	\$1,400.00	Calculated per hour
Total Equipment Hours	51			
Total Stock (Pack and Saddle)	322			
Total Stock Days	1385	\$125.00	\$173,125.00	Calculated per day
Total Donations	\$12,797.10		\$12,797.10	
		Total	\$883,416.90	

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF BCHC’S ANNUAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS!

Shasta Trinity Unit for Highest Dollar Value
(\$504,783)

Los Padres Unit for Highest Dollar Value Per
Capita (\$6,308 per capita)

RENDEZVOUS 2025

TRAILBLAZER, continued from Page 1

needs before her own and has toiled endless hours behind the scenes in furtherance of our mission and the equine community, without comment or spotlight. She has been a mentor to many and a positive example to those around her. She demonstrates a high caliber level of professionalism and volunteerism and has made BCHC better in a myriad of ways.”

The Ben York Trailblazer Award is a special honor, named after Dr. Ben York, Jr., DVM, member of San Diego Unit, who famously rode the entire Pacific Crest Trail in 1992 while serving as BCHC President. His epic ride promoted trail riding and the core mission of BCHC. In that same spirit of forging new paths and advancing the organization’s work, Susie’s efforts have stood out to the BCHC Past Presidents responsible for selecting each year’s recipient.

A California native, Susie has deep roots in the horse world. Growing up in a rodeo family, she traveled the circuit with her parents and brother - her father a rodeo clown and bullfighter turned producer. It was there she met her future husband, Troy. Susie would go on to work as a rodeo secretary for 15 years before shifting gears to education, serving as a school secretary for three decades. Even in retirement, she stays active in education serving on her local School Board.

Now based in the Eastern Sierra, Susie and Troy - married over 50 years - have built a life full of family, horses, and service. They share one son, four granddaughters, two great-granddaughters, and two great-grandsons. As a member of the Eastern Sierra Unit, Susie has continued to give back over the years as Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Lands Chair.

Congratulations, Susie, on this well-earned recognition. Your leadership, work ethic, and heart have made a huge difference in helping shape BCHC into the strong, respected organization it is today.



MAX AND IRENE COCHRAN JOURNALISM AWARD

By Carol Jo Hargreaves, BCHC Editor

Being a Newsletter Editor is a lot of work! Even though units now have websites and social media, newsletters are still the most reliable way for BCHC to get information out to EVERY one of its members.

All unit Newsletter Editors deserve a hearty round of applause for their time, energy and dedication to getting important communications out to their members on a regular basis.

The unit and its Newsletter Editor are selected for the quality of their newsletter based on the following criteria: Content - 70%, Appearance - 20% - Consistency, and 10% - frequency.

The three-member team of judges deliberated carefully to make their final decisions. All entries were impressive and worthy of accolades and each paper stands out for particular features.

4th Place/Honorable Mention – Shasta Trinity newsletter by Albert Estrada. Albert is a relatively new Newsletter Editor and is also his unit’s Webmaster. What the judges particularly liked about the Shasta Trinity newsletter is its excellent Schedule of Unit Events. The calendar is both detailed and easy to use. Published on the unit’s website, this feature could be a model for other units.

3rd Place – San Joaquin Sierra Unit’s “Hoof Prints” created by Jim Laber. This publication is a professional-looking “magazine” from cover to cover, incorporating beautiful color photos and graphics plus great features like a Kids Corner with word searches, crossword puzzles, mazes, and other fun things to interest young people. The useful Table of Contents and “Welcome New Members” features were also commendable.

2nd Place – Top of the State “Sis-Q-Trails” compiled by Michele Machado each quarter is full of information, colorful photos and well-written articles. Its comprehensive statement of purpose sets an example for other units to follow. Michele recently began using a graphic design platform called “Canva” to create the paper and posts it on the unit’s Facebook Page as well.

1st Place – “Mid Valley Monthly” produced every month by the team of Gail Jamieson, Vicki Morales and Kathy Zumbrunn is chockful of useful information. What sets this newsletter apart from the others is the fact that unit officers and committee chairs regularly submit articles, increasing variety and interest for readers.

BCHC thanks all units who entered this year’s contest and all Newsletter Editors for their dedication to doing this valuable job!

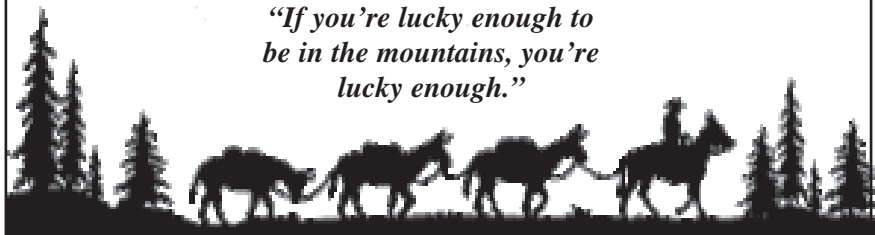
THANK YOU, 2025 RENDEZVOUS SPONSORS!

BCHC sincerely thanks the following 2025 Rendezvous sponsors for their generous support.
Please visit and support these businesses when you have the opportunity.

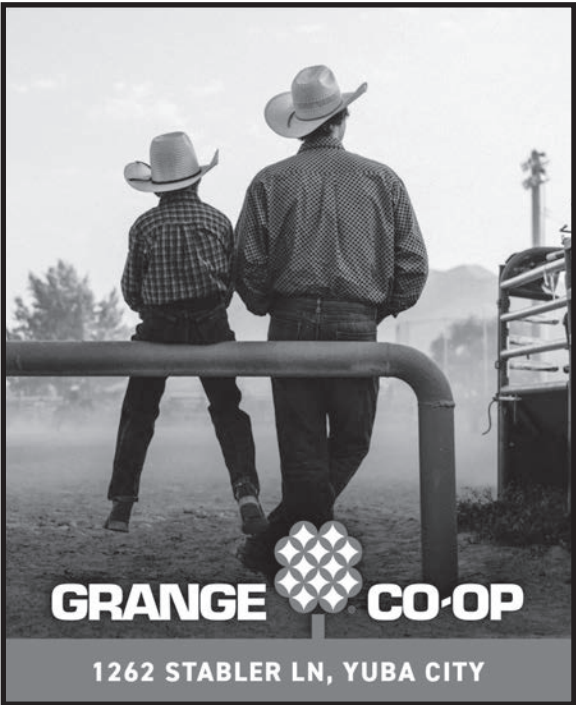
\$1,000 Silver Sponsors

Thank you for \$1,000 sponsorship from Terri Arington in memory of her late husband, Ron Arington. Ron was a longtime Ag teacher at Sonora High School. He was passionate about the back country, his horses and mules, his students and his wife.

*“If you’re lucky enough to
be in the mountains, you’re
lucky enough.”*

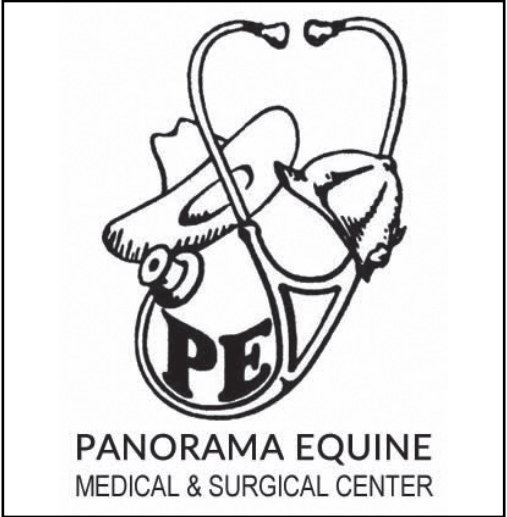


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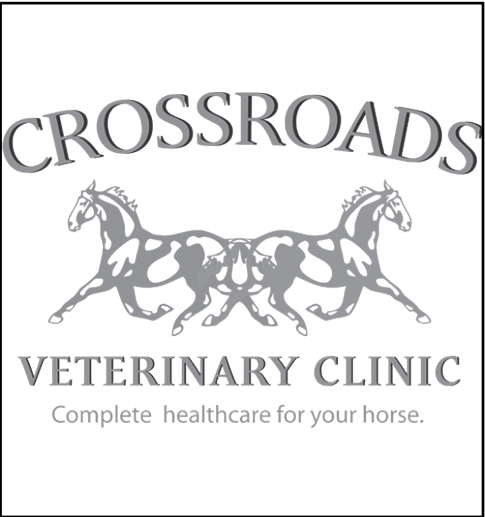


\$750 Bronze Sponsors

Trinity Equine Veterinary Clinics:



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10302 Old Oregon Trail
Redding, CA 96003



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Anderson, CA 96007

LLOYD ERLANDSON
Mid Valley Unit

FORSETH ENTERPRISES

\$100 Sponsors



RENDEZVOUS 2025

2025 RENDEZVOUS ROUNDUP

By Larry Shuman, 2025 Rendezvous General Chairman

The 2025 Rendezvous is in the books. I would like to say it went off without a hitch but, as you all know, that only happens in your dreams. It was a great event with great presentations and fun for all.

We have heard nothing but compliments on the quality of the presenters and, so far, only one complaint - that they wanted a few more presentations. We had our first high school age packing contest with three entries. It was our first try at this event and all the teams, coaches, and spectators really enjoyed the contest.

The Trail Obstacle Challenge was well attended. The event started at around 8 in the morning and didn't get over until after 7 p.m. that evening. My horse was ridden by my adopted granddaughter Olivia, and it was the first try for both. They came in third. Not bad. Proud of them both.

Robert Eversole, the TrailMeister, held a cinch making class that was full. It was so great to have Robert at the Rendezvous. Along with Robert we had two of the North State Trail organizations we partner with each summer. The Bigfoot Trail Alliance and the Ascend Wilderness Experience shared their involvement and knowledge of trail maintenance with us. We hope we can collaborate more with our local trail groups on maintenance education and common problems.

Of course, we had our local forests attending. The Shasta Trinity National Forest and the Klamath National Forest were there doing presentations. I talked to Katy Bartokis, a packer with the Shasta Trinity National Forest, and she said they had a great time.

If you were not at the Rendezvous, you missed probably one of the best sections with BCHC sawyers. The displays of saws and the sharpening and care displays were awesome. The area was always full of people asking questions and watching demos.

I wished I had time to see more of our two trainers, Brian Neubert and Jeff Gleason. I got to watch Brian take a new untrained mule and get him started under halter. He started by desensitizing the mule for about 15 minutes. I was impressed. I have seen Jeff at the annual Shasta Trinity Unit pack clinic and I know how good he is.

Last, I hope everyone had a chance to swing by the Packing 101 and advanced packing area. It seemed like there were always people hanging out and trying their hands at tying a diamond or two.

Thanks to Redwood, Shasta Trinity, and Top of the State members for all their time and effort, planning, organizing, and carrying out this major event. And thanks to all who attended!

DUTCH OVEN COOK OFF RESULTS

By Cindy McMurry

The weather was beautiful for Friday's Dutch Oven Cook Off at the 2025 Rendezvous in Corning.

Six cooks assembled on the lawn to showcase their skills and a large crowd came out later in the afternoon to taste test and vote on the seven dishes that were cooked.

There was lots of conversation and high praise for all the dishes. The following are the results of the contest. The winners may have bragging rights but ALL the dishes were delicious.

Dutch oven results:

1st Place Dessert: Cindy McMurray, High Country Unit - Blueberry Cobbler

2nd Place Dessert: Cindy McDonald, High Country Unit - Apple Dump Cake

1st Place Savory Meal: Karen Wells, Sourdough BCHO

2nd Place Meal: Tie between Larry Jennings of High Country Unit with cheese and black bean enchilada and Cindy McMurry of High Country Unit with chicken potato casserole.

And shout out to David Pritchard of Redwood Unit for his yummy cheesy potatoes. One point off.

A big thank you to the High Country Unit for sponsoring the event and Annie Jennings and her team for all their hard work.



CONGRATULATIONS,

KEVIN DOLLISON, MOTHER LODGE UNIT

WINNER OF THE \$500 BASS PRO GIFT CARD

RENDEZVOUS 2025

WESTERN ART SHOW WINNERS

Backcountry Horsemen of California members are diverse and talented. A display of paintings, photography, sewing, knitting, quilting, carving, leatherwork, crafts, and other hand work was on display during Rendezvous' Western Art Show. Buyers were encouraged to contact an artist to purchase items and/or to bid on artwork at the Saturday dinner auction. What a great display of artistic talent! Congratulations to the winners in each category!

Print 1 st - Sandy McTeer 2 nd - Sandy McTeer 3 rd - Sandy McTeer	Drawing 1 st - Dennis Jensen 2 nd - Dennis Jensen
Digital Art 1 st - Tim Van Schooten	Watercolor 1 st - Dennis Jensen
Oil 1 st - Lorinda Dollison 2 nd - Lorinda Dollison	Acrylic 1 st - Lori Luddon
Pastel 1 st - Lori Luddon 2 nd - Lori Luddon	Fiber Art 1 st - Cindy McMurry 2 nd - Lori Luddon
Arts and Crafts 1 st - Thelma Howse 2 nd - Logan Martin	Leather 1 st - Dennis Jensen
Photo 1 st - Tim Van Schooten 2 nd - Tim Van Schooten 3 rd - Tim Van Schooten	Metal 1 st - Logan Martin

[Special thanks from the Editor to Paddy Larue, Shasta Trinity Unit, for finding and typing the Western Art Show results for The Backcountry News!]

WILDERNESS RIDER OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award is given in memory of Larry DiFani who was instrumental in creating the team of individuals who are trained stock users who have made a commitment to educating others about the value of wild lands and the importance of Leave No Trace.

GEORGE ARCHER



People's Choice Award - Richly detailed leather chinks in deep burgundy suede with colorfully tooled and painted designs of a coyote howling at the moon, mountain peaks and clouds. By Leah Castor.



1st Place in Metal category - Copper Native American Headress by Logan Martin

RENDEZVOUS IN CORNING

A look back at
“ODE TO OUR FAVORITE TRAILS”
 2025 BCHC Rendezvous
 Friday - Sunday
 April 11 - 13



MORE RENDEZVOUS
 PHOTOS ON BACK PAGE



Photo Credits this page, clockwise from top left: Grand Entry Parade and Kids Corral (by Kathy Zumbrunn), Dutch Oven Cook-Off winners (from Cindy McMurry), Mike Hughes Fixing Door and Saturday night dinner (by Susie Patton).

Photo Credits opposite page, clockwise from top left: Barbara Schuyler carries flag through Trail Obstacle Course (by Michele Machado), Western Art Show quilt (from Norma Kohlbaker), youth packers, Top of the State youth packer, and TrailMeister Cinch Class (by Michele Machado), Dave Moser teaching saw class (by Kathy Zumbrunn).

RENDEZVOUS 2025

CONGRATULATIONS, 2024 TOP HANDS!

Every year each Unit President selects an individual that, in the President’s estimation, provided the greatest service to the President and to his/her Unit. The selection is not necessarily made from Unit Officers or Board of Directors. This award was first presented at the 1988 Convention and continues to be a popular award.

Antelope Valley	Marcy Watton
Eastern Sierra	Sage Lancaster
High Country	Olivia Smutz
High Sierra	Cathy Caskey
Kern River Valley	Steve Horst
Kern Sierra	Steve Cozzetto
Los Padres	John Gleason
Manzanita Riders	Lynda Sterns
Mid Valley	Cathy Dollarhide
Mother Lode	Remco Van der Linden
North Bay	Lindsay Marget
Redshank Riders	Stacy Kuhns
Redwood	Mary Moore
San Joaquin Sierra	Marcee Hansen
Santa Ana River	Carol Kelly
Sequoia	Jan Walker
Shasta Trinity	Axel Drake
Sierra Freepackers	Lee Smith
Sutter Buttes	Diane Day
Top of the State	Debbie Bacigalupi

2024 EDUCATION AWARDS

These awards are given in memory of
Charlie Morgan
who was instrumental in creating the
Education branch of BCHC.

UNIT AWARD: EASTERN SIERRA UNIT

INDIVIDUAL AWARD: STACY KUHNS

TRAIL OBSTACLE COURSE RESULTS

Article and photo by Michele Machado Woods

When we decided to partner with the California State Horsemen’s Association (CSHA) for our 2025 Rendezvous Trail Obstacle Course event, we figured we would have a good turnout and we were right!

Nearly 60 riders competed in Advanced, Intermediate, Novice, Youth, Mini-Youth and Packing classes on April 12. The course was a fun mix of trail-themed obstacles using natural materials such as lodgepole logs, to others built out of pool noodles, and still others that required the equines and riders to push or drag objects. All obstacles required the riders to have a great relationship with their mounts.

We appreciate BCHC volunteers Erica Fruiht and Kelly York who helped with putting on this event. Big thanks also go out the CSHA State Obstacle Challenge Chairperson, Vicki Nims, for partnering with us to put on this event.

RESULTS:

Top four participants in each class who earned awards:

Advanced

Points	Name
140	Rene Turnbull
135	John Tilley
134	Tiffany Beechinor
133	Linda Wall

Mini-Youth (ages 11 and under)

Points	Name
127	Bryce Beechinor

Packing Class

Points	Name
130	Jean Chadsey - Pack
126	Barbara Schuyler - Pack
123	Robin Chartier - Pack
115	Jean Chadsey - Pack

Intermediate

Points	Name
145	Ellen Liebenberg
142	Laura Neely
140	Sheila Johnson
138	Jean Chadsey

Novice

Points	Name
136	Barbara Schuyler
130	Theresa LaGrande
130	Karen Reeves
127	Colleen Gonterman

Youth (ages 11-17)

Points	Name
120	Kalynn Madura
116	Kalynn Madura
82	Olivia Estrada
36	Axel Drake

CONGRATULATIONS,

KELLY ROWELL,
MOTHER LODE UNIT

WINNER OF THE
CATERED PACK TRIP FOR
TWO

RENDEZVOUS 2025

RENDEZVOUS: TRAILMEISTER

Article and photos by Michele Machado Woods

The organizers for Rendezvous were thrilled to have Robert Eversole, aka TrailMeister, as a featured clinician in Corning. Robert’s mohair cinch-making clinics are a big draw at all of the events he attends, and the clinic at Rendezvous was no exception. We hoped to fill the class with 16 participants, and we exceeded that with 18 sign-ups. This goal helped BCHC earn more than \$1,000 from the clinic.

Robert’s cinch clinic was scheduled for four hours in the morning on Friday, April 11, and the same schedule on Saturday, April 12, so attendees would have time to attend other events at Rendezvous. For the \$350 clinic fee, Robert provided a “stick,” or loom, and all the mohair yarn materials and other tools to build the cinch. Attendees got to bring home all of these materials and tools so they can create more cinches in the future. Robert also provided a booklet with instructions and QR codes to videos for additional learning.

After the cinch clinic each day, Robert hosted free seminars on topics such as Horse Camping 101, lightweight horse camping, emergency preparedness in the wilderness, and steps you can take to save your life when the worst happens during a ride.

After the clinics, I spoke with Robert about future events and the possibility of him traveling back to Northern California to help with some trail work in the future. We hope to make this happen during the summer of 2026!



CHAMPION, continued from Page 1

Hill in Washington, D.C. Recipients of her namesake award are chosen by a three-person committee led by the BCHC Vice President of Public Lands - an honor Doc has more than earned.

Now in his 80s, Bill Carter has been a BCHC member for over 30 years. His legacy is built not only on his support of BCHC’s volunteer service projects and the Intern Program, but also on the many trails he’s personally helped clear across the Eastern Sierra. Working with the Pacific Crest Trail Association since 2001, Doc’s impact is legendary. In 2002 he was awarded PCTA’s Regional Trail Maintainer of the Year and in 2008 he received their Alice Krueper Award, top honor for outstanding trail maintenance volunteers, given to the person identified as having done the most for trail maintenance during the year.

In 2013, Bill earned the American Trails “Trail Worker Award” for his extraordinary efforts after the “epic” November 2012 wind event near Mammoth, California. That year, his crews cleared 4,400 downed trees across 340 miles of trail—without a single injury. One memorable challenge involved a monster tree over 8 feet in diameter—too large for any saw they had. With quick thinking (and by removing the saw handle), Doc and his team got the tree out of the way and opened the trail once again.

As featured in *The Sheet News: News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra*, Doc’s story stretches well beyond trail work. He served as an optometrist in the U.S. Air Force, with posts in South Korea, Washington, D.C., and the Azores Islands before settling in Bishop in 1973 with his wife Marilyn. They chose Bishop for its slower pace and open spaces, raising their family there. Bill and Marilyn have now been married over 55 years. Their son, William M. Carter, runs a thriving dental practice in the community.

Bill is a man of many talents. Certified in both chainsaw and crosscut saw use, he also knows how to handle stock, break apart rock, and operate grip hoists to remove massive trees from trails. He’s famous for his hands-on leadership style and incredible organizational skills - whether it’s coordinating funding for meals on work parties or orchestrating complex pack trips. He’s also a major force behind the Bishop Mule Days Celebration, managing pack contests for youth and college students.

At a time when U.S. Forest Service budget cuts have left many trails neglected or closed, Doc continues to step up. He sees what needs to be done and he does it, bringing people together, teaching them the basics of trail maintenance, and building strong, committed crews. His motto is simple: if you’re a good worker, Doc wants you on his team.

Congratulations on this well-deserved award!

A VET'S ADVICE

SPRINGTIME CHECKLIST

By Dr. Carol Van Hoogmoed, DVM, Mid Valley Unit

As the weather gets better and we start planning trips to the backcountry, now is the time to prepare. This means giving our horses plenty of time to condition, update the medical requirements and address any hoof issues. Then we can prep all the equipment needed.

Core vaccines are given yearly in the spring, which include Eastern and Western Encephalitis, Tetanus Toxoid, West Nile and Rabies. The risk-based vaccines Influenza and rhinopneumonitis are given twice yearly in the Spring and Fall. There are other vaccines available, such as strangles and the rattlesnake vaccine. Discuss with your veterinarian if these vaccines are warranted in your particular case. Ideally, any vaccine should be given a minimum of two weeks to boost the immune system; so if you give them a day before you leave, your horse probably won't be protected. Deworming should be done at least twice yearly, with fecal exams done between deworming to monitor parasite load and identify those horses who seem to carry a high burden of parasites and need more frequent deworming. Dental exams will help, not only with mastication, but also the comfort level and performance of horses. Sharp points, abnormal wear/chewing, feed packed between teeth and fractured teeth are just some of the issues that can be found and treated with a dental exam. By doing the annual health exam, vaccines and dental, your horse will be ready to start conditioning for the backcountry.

To ensure your horse has just as enjoyable time as you, make sure your equipment is in good shape and fits your horse well. Check for rusty points/edges on the pack boxes, straps and ropes are clean, in good repair, halters aren't frayed and buckets aren't broken. Make sure trailer tires are in good condition,

floorboards are strong, no loose partitions or windows in the trailer. Look at it from a horse's perspective to help prevent accidents.

Just in case there is an accident though, make sure to go through your emergency kit. Replace old or expired medications, bandages that are still usable, and anything that was taken out has been replaced (scissors!). You can call Sweet River Equine Clinic for a list of suggested emergency kit items.

Hopefully, by being proactive and going through your checklist now, when it is time to hit the road, you will not be delayed by sick animals or equipment failures. When that nice weather is here you will be ready to enjoy the mountains!



A GOOD IDEA

PACKING IN THE NEXT GENERATION

By Jennifer Best, San Joaquin/Sierra Unit

As BCH membership ages, what will the future of trails, packing, equine-related recreation advocacy, public lands stewardship and use look like in? One answer to growing membership, participation and interest is to bring in the next generation, to provide education and training for generations to come. While legalities surrounding youth participation may seem daunting, partnering with other organizations to bring in BCHC member knowledge and skills may be one part of the solution. Here on the Central Coast of California, I'm testing the waters as I develop San Luis Obispo County's first-ever 4-H Horse & Mule Packing Project, and I'll tell you what: the support has been incredible!

I initially joined BCHC back in, oh, 2011. My kids were little, we had one horse, no mules, and while I had decades of backpacking, off-road-ing, and other backcountry experience, I had never packed in with stock. I heard BCHC was the place to meet rugged individualists with skills to share, and indeed have found some wonderful mentors. In 2019, I became a certified sawyer through BCHC's Saw Program, and expanded my volunteer hours from dirt work and advocacy on trails where I live here on the Central Coast to lands hours east of me in the western Sierra Nevada.

Over the years, we talked at our BCH meetings about youth participation and trying to grow the unit with the addition of the next generations of backcountry stewards. I attended a state leadership meeting where I learned youth programming was facing a major challenge in DOJ requirements that made impossible the mandated record keeping in our all-volunteer organization. As a rural family with two active kids, we had lots of our own stuff going on, including more time spent driving to and from practices and trainings and performances, so I let go the thought of working toward expanding BCHC membership into the next generations.

But I couldn't just let it go. While I continued trail work, kept packing, kept seeing attrition in equine trail use and in membership and in work parties as the years passed, the niggling fact remained: It's very clear that we need to train up the next generation, provide the access and share the skills if we hope to see horses and mules and the people who care about them continue to advocate, ride, work, volunteer and play on our nation's beautiful public lands.

But what to do when the mandated requirements designed to protect youth inadvertently hamstringing organizations like ours? Do we, as an organization, establish a full-time office with paid staff to meet the computer security standards required? With a 2025 membership of 1,781 statewide, that seems impractical.

While I mulled how a youth packing project might come together, I got to thinking: I'm a 4-H leader, and 4-H already has in place all the

See **PACKING IN**, continued on Page 19

A GOOD IDEA

PACKING IN, continued from Page 18

DOJ-mandated systems. I reached out to our county’s 4-H Horse Resource Leader to test the waters, and there was no question: they wanted the project. I figured if so much as one kid signed up, I’d run with it, and I see it as a multi-year project with room for growth as the buzz, membership, experience, and partnerships grow. But what were kids going to do with this knowledge? By including parents in the project lessons, we would enable entire families to turn these lessons into immediate action by summertime.

Fingerprinting (~\$50) and volunteer training (free and about 2 hours of my time) completed again, I reached out to every pack-related person I knew locally, from personal friends and riding buddies to BCH members I’d met and volunteered with along the way. Every single one of them got back to me with keen interest in helping however they could. Our local university’s equine project members, Cal Poly Packing Team, were excited to lend a hand; requests for a loan of an iron mule led to one loaner from a private party half a state away and the donation of another from BCHC-Kern Sierra Unit; Reid & Eileen Hopkins’ One Spade Youth Packers offered to host our meals and walk us through registration, camping and events as we looked toward Mule Days; unaffiliated local packers who’d heard about the project through the grapevine reached out to me to offer their help.

At our first meeting, not one but 11 kids ages 11-15 showed up full of energy and excitement. This was **not** a riding lesson, they were told. They had to come in with their own riding animal and the ability to ride. We would learn a skill at each meeting, then ride. And we wouldn’t be riding in an arena, we’d be hitting the trail. And, if we grow in our skills, we’d be taking our first pack in June. (If a kid can bounce off the walls where there are none, well, that was pretty much the response.)

Ultimately, seven youth and their families signed on. Cal Poly Packing Team led the kids through the first two meetings, teaching them box hitch and diamond hitch and showing the project members the fun of teamwork in the packing world. We’ve attended their driving clinic, their packing clinic, and will be headed to Mule Days before packing in for our first camp in June. We have more volunteers than youth in the project, which makes for great support in a project with so many moving parts: getting kids and their animals to meetings, skills training, trail rides with multiple kids most of whom have also brought an animal to pony.

The project is not without its challenges. While my place has plenty of room to ride, parking was our first big issue - with so much interest, we had to move the project and a good friend and neighbor came onboard with access to her place. Now equipment is becoming an issue as kids bring in packing animals, but no pack saddles, rigging, panniers, man-ties, or lashes. We’re working on it, just as we work through each challenge that heads our way. We are ever so thankful for the partners who amazingly have stepped in at just the right moment.

If you’d like to learn more about our project, or need help getting yours started, reach out. Chances are great the next generation of packers is in your community, too; they just need the support and leadership that BCHC members are uniquely positioned to provide.



UNIT NEWS

SHASTA TRINITY UNIT:

SHASTA TRINITY UNIT IS OFF AND RUNNING

By Mike LaRue, President

The many rains and windstorms causing hate and discontent across the north state did not deter the Shasta Trinity Unit from keeping busy these last four months. We started the New Year off with our annual dinner and fundraiser in January. We enjoyed cowboy poets, fine food, good company, and a sold-out dinner.

The Shasta Trinity Unit had the privilege of hosting the 2025 BCHC Rendezvous at the Rolling Hills Equestrian Center in Corning, California. There have been constant planning meetings, getting vendors and arranging everything that goes with furnishing meals, finding entertainment, and setting up competitions, presenters, and obtaining auction items. We spent the last 18 months diligently pursuing every avenue that would help us succeed in holding a major event. However, this hard work does not mean we haven't had any fun. We have also been working hard to educate and train a team of young people in the art and skill of loading animals and tying knots for the packing competitions. We also held our first trail ride of the year at Dye Creek Preserve where we hosted over 30 riders.

As the weather started to clear up, we were invited to participate in several educational outdoor events that included the Glen County Heritage Days where our unit participated in a mule appreciation day where we introduced over 150 first graders to the history of the mule. The month of April exploded with our being invited to Whiskeytown Lake's Trout in the Classroom. We had a total of 350+ students over the two-day event. Shasta County School Districts' classrooms raised fingerling trout and then released them into the lake. Tehama County Schools met at Sycamore Grove Boat Ramp in Red Bluff where the students released salmon into the Sacramento River. BCHC Shasta Trinity Unit again instructed and entertained over 200 students. We instructed the students in LNT as well as telling them how we release fish during our fish plants.

Before this article is published, BCHC's annual Rendezvous in Red Bluff will be in the books. We will also have participated in Redding's Earth Day Festival educating about LNT and Backcountry Horsemen. We have also been invited to participate in educational events in Paradise, California, at their 29th Annual All Breed Horse Festival.

My grandmother used to say, "There's no rest for the wicked and the righteous don't need it." Looking at our work schedule today, grandma just described how busy the Shasta Trinity Unit will be this summer. So, as usual, we will be looking forward to seeing you all on the trail.



UNIT NEWS

MID VALLEY UNIT:



DUTCH OVEN MEET AND GREET

By Kathy Zumbrunn. Photos by Kathy Z, Craig Stott, and Jerrie Thomas

Oh, what a fantastic day! The weather, although wet and ugly a few days prior, turned out to be perfect! Sun shining, slight breeze and warm!

At 8:00 a.m., Larry Souza and Jerrie Thomas arrived with the Mid Valley Cook Trailer, plus two helping hands, Megan Van Hoogmoed and me. We started unloading and setting up the area. Shortly thereafter, the Dutch oven cooks started arriving. It seemed like organized chaos for a while, but everyone found their place to set up, and we were off and cooking! Pretty soon there were wonderful smells coming from the Dutch ovens, and lots of friendly chatter. Nothing better than good food and friends getting together on a beautiful day in a gorgeous setting as the Knights Ferry Recreational Area on the Stanislaus River!

All total for the day, we ended up with 39 people: 28 members and 11 guests. There were 17 cooks and 19 Dutch oven dishes. The Dutch oven cooks were Michael and JeriAnn King (Enchiladas and Lasagna), Jeannette DeMott and Jack Peebles (Calico Beans), Roy Jones (Au Gratin Potatoes and Sugar Free Chocolate Cake), Sheila Bond and Ron Akers (Chicken Marsala and Tiramisu Cake), Megan Van Hoogmoed (Monkey Bread), Rudy Dezzani (Beer Bread and Irish Soda Bread), Susan Erlandson (Apple Caramel Cobbler), Vicki Morales (Broccoli Cornbread and Chocolate Chip Zucchini Cake), Dennis Serpa (Chicken and Dumplings), Stephanie Stott (Peach Cobbler), Cathy Dollarhide (Chocolate Cake), Maggie Stein (Chicken and Dumplings), Edmond Perez (Barbecue Ribs) and Bambi Porter (a guest who showed up to learn how to Dutch oven cook - Pineapple Angel Food Cake). And Gail Altieri brought Teriyaki Chicken Legs!

After we loaded up our plates with all the delicious selections and settled in to feast, Ranger Tyler, Ranger Savannah and Ranger Logan came to talk to us. Ranger Tyler explained about the history of Knights Ferry and what role the Corps of Engineers provides. We did not know they oversaw the Parks/Recreational areas from Ripon to the Goodwin Dam

Recreational Area in Jamestown! Big job!

We want to thank the Park Rangers for all their help and information before and throughout the day. Everyone was so helpful and friendly, and we made sure we followed all the rules and left the area as clean as when we arrived. All in all, it was a most pleasant adventure, and we are thinking this will be an annual event!

The saying is: it takes a village to raise a child. Well, it takes many helping hands to pull off such a great event as this. Thank you to Michael King, whose idea it was to have this Dutch Oven Gathering (DOG) at Knights Ferry. Michael doggedly pursued the "folks in charge" at Knights Ferry to make sure we had all the information we needed to be able to do our event. After all the phone calls and trips to talk to various people, all the t's were crossed, the i's dotted, and we were on our way!

And thank you to all the Dutch oven cooks! Thank you to Sheila Bond and Ron Akers who drove all the way from Fair Oaks to cook with us today. It takes a lot of time and effort to do Dutch oven cooking, not only the expense of gas, but the cost of groceries these days is

outrageous! So, thank you to everyone who came, donated their time and expertise to make this a wonderful day! And thank you to Larry Souza and Jerrie Thomas for taking care of and hauling around the Mid Valley Cook Trailer. It takes a lot of work to keep it organized.



UNIT NEWS

MANZANITA RIDERS UNIT:

FROM RESCUE RIDES TO HISTORIC REPAIRS: MANZANITA UNIT KICKS OFF 2025 WITH HEART

By Terry Jorgensen

2025 started off with a Facebook post from a couple camping at Vern Whitaker Horse Camp in Anza Borrego Desert State Park requesting assistance from local equestrians to search for their horse who had escaped his corral and took off across the desert. Usually that would entail a nice warm ride, however this was January and Southern California was experiencing one of the many storms that came our way. Weather did not deter Manzanita unit members Patti Achilly and Terry Jorgensen from putting on several layers of warm clothing, tacking up their horses and heading out. While the horse was not located that day, he was found two or three days later and returned to camp.

Then, in March, Manzanita unit members, Laura Precoda and Terry Jorgensen joined San Diego County Parks staff in a working weekend to make repairs to the Vallecitos Stage Station. The Stage Station is the last remaining sod building that was part of the Butterfield Stage Line in the 1860s. Volunteers mixed the «mud» used to cover the sod bricks that make up the walls of the building. The bricks are two layers thick and extend below the surface of the surrounding ground. The mud is used to adhere the bricks together and is also used to make a thick layer over the exterior of the brick wall. While a lot of repair was accomplished that weekend it will take many more weekends to complete the project on the entire building.



UNIT NEWS

MOTHER LODGE UNIT:

UC DAVIS PACK TEAM GETS READY FOR BISHOP

By Lucy Badenhoop

For many years, the Mother Lode Unit (MLU) has sponsored student packer teams with the help of the UCD Barn Manager, Kelli Davis. Some years enough students make the extracurricular commitment and UCD forms two teams (Team Gold with yellow shirts and Team Blue with blue shirts – the school colors).



The 2025 Team (left to right): Kelli Davis, Jocelyn Cisneros, Madison Bautista, Jon Jon Giang, Rane Shim Clark, Kaitlyn Windfeldt-Marino and Andy Assereto

Each year MLU financially supports the team’s travel to and participation in Bishop Mule Days along with uniforms and their packing coach Andy Assereto. Additionally, MLU provides equipment for the students to use in their practice sessions. This year, two more practice stations were added, complete with the iron mules, saddles, saddle pads, panniers, cinches, lash ropes and manties. The wood box panniers were custom



Team Practice

The student packers are also active in other events like the BCHC Rendezvous and the MLU pack clinic every April at Dru Barner Trail-head near Georgetown, California. MLU and the Georgetown Divide Equestrian Trails Foundation have a two-day work party to open the campground for the season followed by the MLU Saturday Pack Clinic. The main attraction of the day is a Dutch Oven lunch prepared by Sheila Bond and Ron Akers.



Pack Clinic

EASTERN SIERRA UNIT:

HELP NEEDED AT BISHOP MULE DAYS BCHC SAW STATION



By Anna Baglione, Eastern Sierra Unit

We need some volunteers to help at the BCHC Saw Station at Bishop Mule Days. There needs to always be at least one sawyer (Saw Card holder) present at all times the station is open, but anyone can help if they are present. That sawyer person doesn't necessarily need to be overseeing, just in the booth or station area. As we have done in the past, we usually have our BCHC booth set up adjacent to the Saw Station, so this sign up is only specific to the Saw Station. But, if you would like to volunteer in the BCHC booth, we could use your help there, too!

Anyone who volunteers for either booth is considered a Bishop Mule Days volunteer and there is lunch provided each day for all! Refreshments are also available for volunteers all day in the Tallman Pavillion.

If you can help, please contact me. Thank you!

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

**We look forward
to meeting you!**

**The following 59 new members joined BCHC from
1/15/2025 through 4/21/2025**

Antelope Valley	Leah Barry Fred and Brenda Gonzalez Rayen and Brian Richmond Jay and Jennie Yarnell	Santa Ana River	Abel (Butch) Avalos Jimson C. Vincent Heather Lawton Annabelle Lencioni Maureen Milligan Mary Oliver JT and Katy Zulliger Alex Krevitz and Bob Parris Tammy Aviles Evan Beeber Nancy Carbajal Beth Ford Alison Pick and Aubrey Champlin
Eastern Sierra	Joseph, Jessica, Sadie & Joseph Bowling Michael Griffith Laura Lewis Andrea Walker	Sequoia Shasta Trinity	
High Country	Cheri Brugman Lane and Sandy Caldwell Toodie Johnson Laura and Brian Miller	Sierra Freepackers Sutter Buttes	
High Sierra	Ashley Cain Jill Gillespie Susie Green Ashley Owens Jillian Wehner Jennifer and Joshua Rose Cassie Berger Karen Chestnut Laura Drenth Lew Eisaguirre Rick Hill Mark Krist Vincent Leedham Joseph and Jen McKenzie Catalina Montano Jessica Wagner Christina Walker	Top of the State	
Kern Sierra Los Padres	Craig Fish Holly A. Foiles Jennifer Hulak Emily Ryslinge Dori Simson Cheryl Spears		
Manzanita Riders Mid Valley	Beth, James & Mark Bath John Bertilacchi Jocelyn Cisneros Joshua Davis Ashley Gross Jill Haueter Kim Carter Spencer R. Butler Alexsis Davie and Tran Beyea Patsy Anderson Andrea Jacobsen		
Mother Lode			
North Bay Redshank Riders Redwood			
San Joaquin Sierra			

WHY JOIN BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA?

As a member, you'll:

- Get to participate in state and unit activities
- Learn valuable backcountry skills and outdoor ethics
- Gain new friends from among our wonderful members
- Receive the BCHC newsletter
- Be kept up to date on public lands issues
...and more!

Even if you don't ride or aren't an active member, your dues contribute to our cause! You'll be helping pay for work projects, educational materials, training and insurances. Help support our efforts to keep trails open to stock users on public lands!

TO JOIN OR RENEW BY MAIL

1. Fill out the MEMBERSHIP FORM, make a copy for your records. **IMPORTANT:** Youth Memberships **MUST** also print, sign, and mail these forms. Youth memberships will **NOT** be valid until the forms are received.

2. Mail the completed form(s) and check* to:
Chip Herzig
BCHC Membership
1280 State Rte 208
Yerington, NV 89447

*Please make checks payable to
Backcountry Horsemen of California

TO JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE

1. Fill out the ONLINE MEMBERSHIP FORM, save it and print a copy for your records.

2. Submit the online form. A copy will be sent to Chip Herzig, VP of Membership. **IMPORTANT:** Youth Memberships **MUST** also print, sign, and mail these forms. Youth memberships will **NOT** be valid until the forms are received.

3. Pay with your Paypal

Recognition of Special Individuals

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.

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS

1/15/2025 through 4/21/2025

BENEFACTOR (\$100)

Antelope Valley	Marge Biehl
	Rayen Richmond
Eastern Sierra	Greg Allen
	Craig London
	Troy Patton
High Country	Lorene Guffey
High Sierra	Ruth Gerson
	Nancy Hamill
Kern Sierra	Mylon Filkins, DVM
	Craig Gunderson
	Lynn Joiner
	Larry Mumford
	Roger Whitaker
Los Padres	Kaye Bruns
	Robin Cederlof
	William Chaides
	Eve Devine
	Laurie Henry
Manzanita Riders	Patricia Achilly
Mid Valley	Tony Alamo
	Jay Barnes
	Gary A. Cain
	Carol Jo Hargreaves
	Rian Hudson
	Debra Lewis
	John V. Marshall
	Jennifer Marshall
	John Schaapman
Mother Lode	Tom Cooper
	Hetty Dutra
	Donna Jones Furlow
	Annabelle Toothaker
	Stephanie Williams
North Bay	Lynn Cominsky
	Tim Holliday
Redshank Riders	Kathy A. Burleson
Redwood	Gary Alves
	Carole & Darrel Polasek

BENEFACTOR (\$100)

San Joaquin Sierra	John Cunningham
	Larry Nishma, Knapp-Yosemite Trls Pk Sta
	James Laber
	Stephen Naylor
	Cathie Walker
Santa Ana River	Doris Bartholomew
	Pat Wolff
Sequoia	Jamie Wilson, DVM
Shasta Trinity	Lori Henderson
	Levi Solada
Sierra Freepackers	Ann Bates

PATRON (\$250)

Eastern Sierra	Bill Carter
	Andrea Walker
High Country	Lynn Saunders
High Sierra	Richard Cochran
	Karl Pendegraft
Kern Sierra	Willi Coeler
Manzanita Riders	Lynda & Michael Sterns
Mid Valley	Karen Barindelli
	Lloyd Erlandson
	Dennis M. Serpa
Shasta Trinity	Bruce McGowan
Sutter Buttes	Kay Walters

MT. WHITNEY (\$500)

Eastern Sierra	Sarah C. Sheehan
Los Padres	Otis Calef
Mid Valley	Terri Arington
	John Young
Mother Lode	Catherine McArthur
Redshank Riders	Allison Renck
Santa Ana River	Craig Bugajski
Shasta Trinity	Dean Angelides

REMINDER:

If you are using PayPal to pay for a membership that is not your own, notify the VP of Membership at time of payment. (PayPal does not have an option to attach a message when units or individuals pay for someone else’s membership.)

BCHC Units Around the State

ANTELOPE VALLEY

PO Box 84
Valyermo, CA 93563
www.bchc-avunit.org
Marcy Watton
(661) 878-1791
Mwatton@att.net

EASTERN SIERRA

17 Unit B Sunny Slope Rd
Crawley Lake, CA 93546
Anna Baglione
(209) 918-1210
easternsierrabch@gmail.com

HIGH COUNTRY

PO Box 161
Milford, CA 96104
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/170146466736818>
Cindy McMurry
(530) 640-0429
mcmurricindy@gmail.com

HIGH SIERRA

PO Box 6632
Visalia, CA 93290
www.highsierraunit.org
Dan Baumgardner
(559) 334-7731
danbdrafthorse@yahoo.com

KERN RIVER VALLEY

PO Box 9507
Lake Isabella, CA 93240
Steve Horst
(661) 867-2777
horststephenc@yahoo.com

KERN SIERRA

16347 Stephenie Rd
Bakersfield, CA 93314-9669
Curtis Harms
(661) 817-5452
mulerider2020@icloud.com

LOS PADRES

PO Box 472
Atascadero, CA 93422
www.bchc-lpunit.org
Greg Feinberg
(805) 458-2879
Feinberg.greg@gmail.com

MANZANITA RIDERS

PO Box 3130
Ramona, CA 92065-0954
Terry Jorgensen
(760) 789-5185
tlh9749@yahoo.com

MID VALLEY

PO Box 1709
Modesto, CA 95353
www.bchcmidvalley.org
Barbara Baglione-Riner
(209) 402-4473
bbaglione@gmail.com

MOTHER LODGE

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

NORTH BAY

PO Box 9435
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
www.northbayunit.com
Dan Horn
(707) 953-4903
bearstrap@msn.com

REDSHANK RIDERS

PO Box 383
Aguanga, CA 92536-0383
www.redshankriders.com
Tabatha Nuner
(760) 315-6931
president@redshankriders.com
norwesgirl@gmail.com

REDWOOD

PO Box 6023
Eureka, CA 95502-6023
www.redwoodunit.com
David Pritchard
(760) 791-2016
dfredpl969@yahoo.com

SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA

PO Box 25693
Fresno, CA 93729-5693
www.bchcsjsu.org
Jim Laber
(559) 250-7906
jim@visaliaidea.com

SANTA ANA RIVER

PO Box 306
Norco, CA 92860
www.sarubchc.org
Carol Kelly
(951) 288-0394
theckcorral@gmail.com

SEQUOIA

PO Box 1298
Lindsay CA 93247.
Jamie Wilson, DVM
(559) 202-7216
drjamie91@gmail.com

SHASTA TRINITY

18870 Oakwood Heights Dr
Cottonwood, CA 96022
www.bchcshastatrinity.org
Mike LaRue
(530) 227-4940
rudebear64@gmail.com

SIERRA FREEPACKERS

PO Box 64
Oakhurst, CA 93644-0064
www.sierrafreepackers.com
Denise Robinson
(559) 877-3532
robnden@netptc.net

SUTTER BUTTES

2568 Lake Hills Dr
Butte Valley, CA 95965
Facebook.com/people/Backcountry-Horsemen-of-California-Sutter-Buttes-Unit/61567898064171/
Gary Paul (Acting Pres.)
(530) 693-0420
muleguy54@gmail.com

TOP OF THE STATE

PO Box 461
Etna, CA 96027-0461
www.bchc-tos.com
Facebook.com/
2273753019542490/posts/
d41d8cd9/2686922421558879/
Michele Machado Woods
(817) 308-0258
meechele418@gmail.com

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The unit names and addresses listed here are taken directly from the 2025 Directory of State and Unit Officers. If your unit's information is incorrect, please contact this Newsletter Editor as soon as possible to report changes.

REMEMBER!

The BCHC Executive Committee no longer sends out membership renewal verification "green slips" via regular mail. Each unit president and membership chair will get their unit's data AND it will be put on the BCHC web page in the password protected section.

Questions? Membership Matters

BCHC VP of Membership is

Chip Herzig.

He will be happy to address your questions or concerns. Chip may be reached Monday through Friday.

By mail: BCHC Membership

1280 State Rt 208

Yerington, NV 89447

Email: BCHC_Membership@

bchcalifornia.org

Phone: (775)463-3634

Membership

(Revised 12/12/2024; released 1/2025)

Backcountry Horsemen
of California



MAIL TO: BCHC
MEMBERSHIP
1280 State Rt. 208
Yerington, NV 89447

MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION

A Family & Youth
Oriented Organization
Release 1 2025 (12 Dec 24)

☐ New ☐ Change

☐ Renewal

PARENT UNIT AFFILIATION: (Select and CHECK a Unit as your Affiliation)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antelope Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> Los Padres | <input type="checkbox"/> Redshank Riders | <input type="checkbox"/> Sierra Freepackers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Sierra | <input type="checkbox"/> Manzanita Riders | <input type="checkbox"/> Redwood | <input type="checkbox"/> Sutter Buttes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Country | <input type="checkbox"/> Mid Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquín Sierra | <input type="checkbox"/> Top of the State |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Sierra | <input type="checkbox"/> Mother Lode | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Ana River | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kern River Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> North Bay | <input type="checkbox"/> Sequoia | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kern Sierra | | <input type="checkbox"/> Shasta Trinity | |

DCTR (Your Membership Number): _____

MEMBER’S NAME - No Business Names, Print Clearly SPOUSE/CO-MEMBER’S NAME - MUST SHARE SAME ADDRESS

Street Address/PO Box

City State Zip Code (full 9 digits if known) Area Code Phone Number

Email Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Donation to BCHC Education Fund (Tax deductible) \$ _____ Enclosed: Check No.

Parent Unit Membership Types (Check One)

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Individual \$60 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Family \$75 | <input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult (18-25 years old) \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Individual \$110 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Family \$140 | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth (12-17 years old) \$15* | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Year Individual \$160 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Year Family \$205 | *Youth members MUST fill out BOTH Youth Membership forms (available online) | |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Mt. Whitney \$500 |

Associate Membership: An Additional \$15 PER UNIT is added to your Parent Unit Dues
Associate Membership Unit Affiliations MAY NOT BE FOR THE SAME UNIT AS YOUR PARENT UNIT

Associate Membership for: _____ \$15/Unit
Unit Name (from above list)

Associate Membership for: _____ \$15/Unit
Unit Name (from above list)

Please clip form along dashed line and keep the below portion for your records.

Parent BCHC Membership Types

Individual, Family, (Shared**), Benefactor, Patron, and Mt. Whitney
A Parent Membership is with a single Local Unit.

**A SHARED Membership is for two adults with differing last names who share a common address.

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.

Youth Memberships

Youth Memberships MUST be accompanied by a signed Youth Membership Permission Release and Youth Parent Permission Form. A Youth Membership is NOT valid until BCHC or the Parent Unit has received signed copies of these forms.

Complete information regarding BCHC Membership
is available on the MEMBERSHIP TAB at
bchcalifornia.org or call (775) 463-3634

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

I submitted an Application Form for a -

- | | |
|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Individual | \$60 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Individual | \$110 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Year Individual | \$160 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Family | \$75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Family | \$140 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Year Family | \$205 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult (18-25 years old) | \$15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth (12-17 years old) | \$15* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mt. Whitney | \$500 |

On that form, I also requested:

_____ Associate Memberships

My Total Remittance:-----

My Check Number: _____

Date Mailed: _____

Verifying BCHC
Membership by

- 1) BCHC Unit President’s reports
- 2) BCHC Membership VP reports
- 3) a self-addressed stamped envelope submitted with this form
- 4) a valid email address

RENDEZVOUS IN CORNING



Photo Credits, clockwise from top left: Volunteer Service Hours Class (by Cindy McMurry), cowboy poets Peggy Goshgarian and Bill Roberts (from Facebook), youth on crosscut saw (from Larry Shuman), Diamond Designs vendor booth, and Dave Moser teaching saw class (by Kathy Zumbunn), and high school packers (by Michele Machado).