

# REDSHANK RIDERS



An Affiliate of Backcountry Horsemen of California

[www.RedshankRiders.com](http://www.RedshankRiders.com)

A group of dedicated men and women working to preserve the historic use of trails with recreational pack and saddle stock.

2008 Officers

Issue 11

NOVEMBER 2008

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## Message from the President

Hi Guys

Hope all is well for you all. This message is going to be short and sweet.

We need folks to step up and volunteer as officers for the 2009 year. The December Holiday Ride and Potluck will be the meeting & is when we elect officers.

Offices open are President, Vice President, Membership, Treasurer, Secretary and I think that is all. So I am asking you to either step up and volunteer or elect your friend!! Friends let friends run for office in Backcountry Horsemen.

With the multiple positions available, they need to be filled. At the December meeting if we do not have folks step up and volunteer we will be discussing where to spend the money in the checking account and disbanding the unit, or bring any idea on how to fix this problem. This makes me very sad to see a lot of hard work throughout the 13 years we have been around to just lose it due to lack of participation. We are a very good group and always put on top-notch events. Folks drive 2 ½ hours to attend our events. They talk as they leave about the next one... It will be a pity.

So please come and help the unit stay alive.... If you aren't able to ride, come out and enjoy good food and good people.

Mark your calendar Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup> at Carol Schmuhl's Place. Carol always has a great trail for us to explore. Thanks Carol for opening your home to us all.

Life is very short so do not put things off, go enjoy the world. Cya on the trails,

Stacy and the red horse "Joe"



# REDSHANK RIDERS UNIT GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING.

Unit Minutes For Monthly Meeting  
October 9th, 2008  
At Los Caballos Vet. Hosp.  
Meeting called to order at 6:43 pm  
by Stacy Kuhns, President

## Roll Call

### Board Members in Attendance

<b>President</b>	Stacy Kuns
<b>Vice President</b>	Audrey Turpin
<b>Treasurer</b>	Paulette Johnson
<b>Secretary</b>	Pauline Costi
<b>Membership/Historian</b>	Carol Schmuhl

### **Members in attendance**

None	
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## REPORTS:

**President**- Stacy:

**Vice President**- Audrey

**Secretary**: Pauline Costi: Minutes approved as published in newsletter  
First: Paulette  
Second: Carol

**Treasurer**: Paulette Johnson: Can be obtained at any membership meeting.

**Membership**: Carol Schmuhl: Currently remains at 132 - No new members since last meeting.

**Trail Development & Maintenance** : Debbie Skinner not present (No Report)

**Adopt a Highway** : Position currently open

**Public Lands**: Pete Spencer not present - attending State Board Meeting

**Education** - Not present - No report Stacy talked about Education Day event. Both she and Herzig's from San Gorgonio unit felt it was a success.

**Newsletter/Website**- Rhonda Strickland not present

**Historian** - Carol Schmuhl: September newsletter in 2008 book, asked for Education Day photos.

**Old Business** - :Pete Spencer to schedule 3 hr. cleanup at Burnt Valley - will take to Anza dump.

**New Business** - Treasure Hunt: Paulette made calls to members for help (not much response). Details of event discussed.

September Ride: Carol - four riders attended

Work Party Borrego: Redshank may partner with San Diego Unit.

December Holiday Ride: Sunday, 12/7 hosted by Carol Schmuhl  
Many officer positions open for next year

Possibility of combining our unit with San Gorgonio. Will put in Nov. newsletter and vote at December meeting.

Next month's speaker: Dr. Clint Dennison

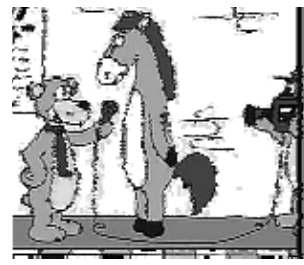
No drawing held for Los Caballos Veterinary Hospital gift certificate

Meeting adjourned at approx 7:35 pm



# THE NEWS ROOM

## Read, Discuss, Act



### Equine Heritage Bill

Soon after the November election, BCHA will be developing a modified plan for the Equine Heritage Bill that has been introduced in the US Senate. *"It must be clear that this is non partisan legislation. We must have support from both parties."*

The Wild Sky legislation that passed was a joint effort by Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash) and Sen. Crapo (R-Idaho). BCHA needs that same kind of effort to get a *right to ride* type of legislation passed. Watch for emails from your state director for further updates.

Please keep in mind, BCHA friends, that no matter what happens with the Forest Service and the BCHA on the Washington DC level, our greatest strength and most important relationships lie with the local chapters and the local ranger districts.

*Excerpted from the BCHA newsletter Fall 2008 Issue 4*

Attend our  
Monthly  
Meetings  
for a  
Chance  
to Win

\$250.00

### GENTLE USE TIPS & TECHNIQUES

#### "GENTLE USERS PLAN AND PREPARE"

Know Before You Go! Do your homework on regulations pertaining to camping, campfires, grazing, bears, trails and terrain. Obtain maps and information on the area. Plan your menus, check tack and gear, and be prepared for emergencies. Condition your stock. Familiarize them with crossing bridges, logs, water, and rocky areas.

#### "GENTLE ON THE TRAIL"

Take it easy on the trail! Remove deadfalls whenever possible to avoid creating anew trail. Avoid cutting

switchbacks. This will help to prevent erosion and costly repairs. Keep stock travelling single file to avoid creating multiple trails.

#### "GENTLE USE OF CAMPSITES"

Select campsites on firm, dry ground. Use existing sites whenever possible. Camp at least 100 feet from lakes and streams, where terrain permits. Use a stove for cooking to be less reliant on fires. Where campfires are allowed, use only dead and down wood, if available. Use an existing fire ring, particularly in high use areas. Naturalize your site before leaving by spreading pine needles and twigs. Scatter manure and fill in any holes that may have been created by your stock.

#### "GENTLE WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT"

If you pack it in - pack it out! This includes leftover food scraps and unburned items from your campfire, such as foil, plastic and glass. Washing dishes, clothes, or yourself should be done at least 100 feet from any waters ource. Use "cat holes" that are 6-8 inches deep to dispose of human waste. Waste should be buried at least 100 feet from water and well away from camp.

#### "GENTLE STOCK MANAGEMENT"

Ensure your stock are well prepared for backcountry challenges. Conditioning them beforehand can help prevent colic, lameness, and other illnesses. Have your stock accustomed to crossing bridges, logs, rocky areas and streams. These are common to backcountry travel. Be prepared to use highlines, hobbles, pickets, electric fences, or loose grazing. Pack supplemental feed, if needed. Practice before you go!

#### "GENTLE WITH PLANTS AND ANIMALS"

Properly store your food from bears and other wildlife. Avoid trampling fragile vegetation in and around your campsite.

#### "GENTLE WITH OTHER USERS"

Treat others with respect and common courtesy. Keep noise to a minimum. Use colors for equipment and clothing that blend into the surrounding. Be of assistance when a need arises.



How many horses  
have three legs?

They all do!

Oct 2008 - BCHC State board Meeting  
Santa Nella CA

By Pete Spencer - Redshank Riders Unit  
State Director and Public Lands Liaisons

Item 1: Request for Motion to accept Minutes of March State Board Meeting made, Motion and second made, vote unanimous.

Item 2: Request for Motion to accept treasurers Report made and Seconded, Vote Unanimous.

Item 3: Rendezvous Financial report. Report states we lost \$6413.09 this was probably due to scheduling Rendezvous on the same weekend as Easter and the rise in fuel costs at the time. The result was poor attendance. This is your Rendezvous, Please attend so we don't continue to do this fruitlessly.

Item 4: Current financial status Balance as of 8/11/08 is \$26,616.27 this includes the Benefactor account of \$21,467 and Legal Defense Fund of \$6234.15. Treasurers report will be available for your perusal at the Nov. 13, 08 Meeting. This indicates that we are essentially broke. This leads to the next point.

Item 5: A motion was made and seconded to require the individual units to pay for their own insurance. This amounts to about \$400 + per year. This can prove to be the downfall of some of the smaller or startup units. As a result the Larger units will subsidize the smaller units by all being charged based on membership numbers. Somewhere near \$4.00 per member. After much discussion about our current financial status a vote was taken which required a show of hands. This was the result of a voice vote which failed to get unanimous agreement. Henceforth the units will have to pay their own insurance. The free days will stay the same.

Item 6: Resolution carried by BCHC State Directors Jerry Ledbetter and Michal Murphy to BCHA National Meeting.

A. Resolution to give states representation at the National level based on per capita membership numbers. Motion made, seconded, voted on and failed.

B. Resolution to sit an Executive Committee to facilitate administrative issues. Contact to be by email and teleconference as required. Passed by unanimous vote BCHA Directors.

Item 7: Insurance issues

BCHC insurance does not cover members engaged in trail maintenance agency (USFS, BLM, State Parks, Etc.) Unit agreement (M.O.A must be in place to indemnify us thru their workman's compensation. Minors must be accompanied by parents. Boy Scouts etc. have their own insurance. We work for them when packing for them.

Item 8: Membership

Currently stands at 3044 statewide. This is down 31 members from last year and is steadily declining from a high of near 4500 members five years ago. We need to do some serious recruiting and make effort to bring past members back into membership. Also we are aging ourselves out of viability. Let's concentrate on recruiting a younger membership.

Item 9: Officer Training

To be head at Rendezvous 7 am to 9 am Saturday. All new and returning officers need to attend. This is a fun and informative event. This really helps you do your job and is a great excuse to attend Rendezvous.

Item 10: BCHC Education Fund

Each unit must set up a separate checking account to take advantage of tax exempt status of donations for education purposes.. There are many ways we can utilize sponsorship to achieve our Educational goals if we do this. It is vitally important to get going.

Item 11: Public Lands: Discussion of Securing a Seminar Speaker

A. Seminar speaker for the PL meeting on Thursday prior to Rendezvous. Motion made to appoint committee to find said speaker, set topic and request funding of \$100.00 per unit to defray cost or partial cost of so doing. Motion passed. by P.L committee and was carried to State Director meeting with same result. This is a response to cost of the last two seminars of \$5000.00 defrayed by state as part of Rendezvous budget. Rendezvous 2008 went into the red to the tune of \$6000.00. Timing of coincidence with Easter weekend probably to blame, along with high gas prices. This issue will be revisited on an annual basis.

*(Continued on page 5)*

(Continued from page 4)

B. Dispersed camping in the National Forest under "National Forest Travel Management Planning Document" "Record of Decision" published in Congressional Register and affecting first the El Dorado National Forest." Four Southern Forest Plan" includes similar policy regarding dispersed camping. The gist of the rule is that vehicles will only be allowed to park within one car or truck length of the road. This will apply to trail heads and designated areas. This means if a trailhead, parking area, or turnout is full YOU CANNOT GO THERE. Does this sound like we need reservations to use the forest or that we will be in jeopardy with our animals or children? Not to mention subject to harassment by ATV's, Drunks and nitwit drivers with ADD. Petitions will be circulation to the units and letters to Forest Supervisors and your Congress persons are encouraged.

The legal issues involved are as follows

1. No alternative plan proposed for even limited dispersed camping .
  2. No consideration for an aging population with increased disabled usage.
  3. Forced use of trailheads and campsites which have been closed and no longer exist according to USFS maps or denial and citation for so doing.
  4. This forces equestrians to campgrounds which are unsuitable where we will be denied access. This is blatant discrimination.
- More on this as the saga unfolds.

Item 7: Volunteer hours

If you have volunteers hours of the following type. Please go to the site website [Backcountryhorsemenofcalifornia.com](http://Backcountryhorsemenofcalifornia.com) and enter them in the blue areas or call 760-782-3747. This includes: time spent on trail maintenance of any kind, education, or attending meetings to defend trail use, etc.

Item 8: State website has been redone new webmaster is Lisa Deas. This is a test site and will be up as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. You can contact her at [HTTP://BCHC-LAKE-MendoBackcountryHorsemenofcaliforina.com](http://BCHC-LAKE-MendoBackcountryHorsemenofcaliforina.com) or [Muledaze@yahoo.com](mailto:Muledaze@yahoo.com). All new officer info must be sent to her ASAP after election of officers by unit President.

Item 9: State news letter deadline for Winter Issue is December 12, 2008. Send article about CRHT and Turkey Treasure Hunt when it is over.

Item 10: BCHC Travel Website

Substantial or equal saving can be yours though the use of the BCHC travel link on the website. The best part is that 60% of the travel agency commission goes to BCHC. So far we have accrued about \$400.00 but if we all started using this for our travel and lodging with 3,500 members it could be a real boost to BCHC coffers. Tell your friends and enhance our earnings even more. The place to go is BCHC getaway.

This concludes this half of the State Board Meeting Report. More next month. . .

## What exactly is "cribbing"?

True cribbing (also known as windsucking) is a stereotypic behavior in horses. Stereotypic behaviors—often called obsessive-compulsive—are characterized by repetitive movements or actions that serve no function. They can sometimes be an expression of stress or boredom.

When a horse cribs, he grabs an item, often a stall door, with his front teeth and sucks in air. Often you will hear a distinctive gulping sound as he forces air down his throat. Cribbing should be discouraged because it is dangerous in two ways: horses often swallow slivers of wood while performing the behavior, and the windsucking itself can cause colic and other issues.

Providing a horse with opportunities for equine companionship, pasture grazing and other forms of enrichment can often greatly decrease cribbing.

**NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

membership@bchcalifornia.net – (866) 748-2033

**MAIL TO:** Backcountry Horsemen of California  
PO Box 1610  
Oakdale, CA 95361-1610**PARENT Unit Affiliation:** (Select and CIRCLE ONE Unit as your Primary Unit Affiliation)

Antelope Valley	Kern River Valley	Mojave River	Redwood	Sequoia
Caballeros del Sol	Kern Sierra	Mother Lode	San Diego	Shasta Trinity
Eastern Sierra	Lake-Mendo	North Bay	San Gorgonio Pass	Sierra Freepackers
High Country	Los Padres	Ohlone Riders	San Joaquin Sierra	Sutter Buttes
High Sierra	Mid Valley	Redshank Riders	Santa Ana River	Top of the State

DCTR (your Membership Number): \_\_\_\_\_ (For new memberships, will be determined by Membership Coordinator)

MEMBER'S NAME—No Business Names; Print Clearly

SPOUSE / Co-MEMBER'S NAME—MUST SHARE SAME ADDRESS

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code (full 9 digits, if known) \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code Phone

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Unit Membership Types: (CIRCLE ONE)****Individual \$40.00\*    Family \$50.00\*    Benefactor \$100.00    Patron \$250.00    Mt Whitney \$500.00**

\* = BCHC shares portion of dues with Backcountry Horsemen of America.

**Associate Memberships: AN ADDITIONAL \$15.00 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: \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00/unit  
Unit Name (from above list)Associate Membership for: \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00/unit  
Unit Name (from above list)

Please write additional choices on back.

Please clip form along dashed line.

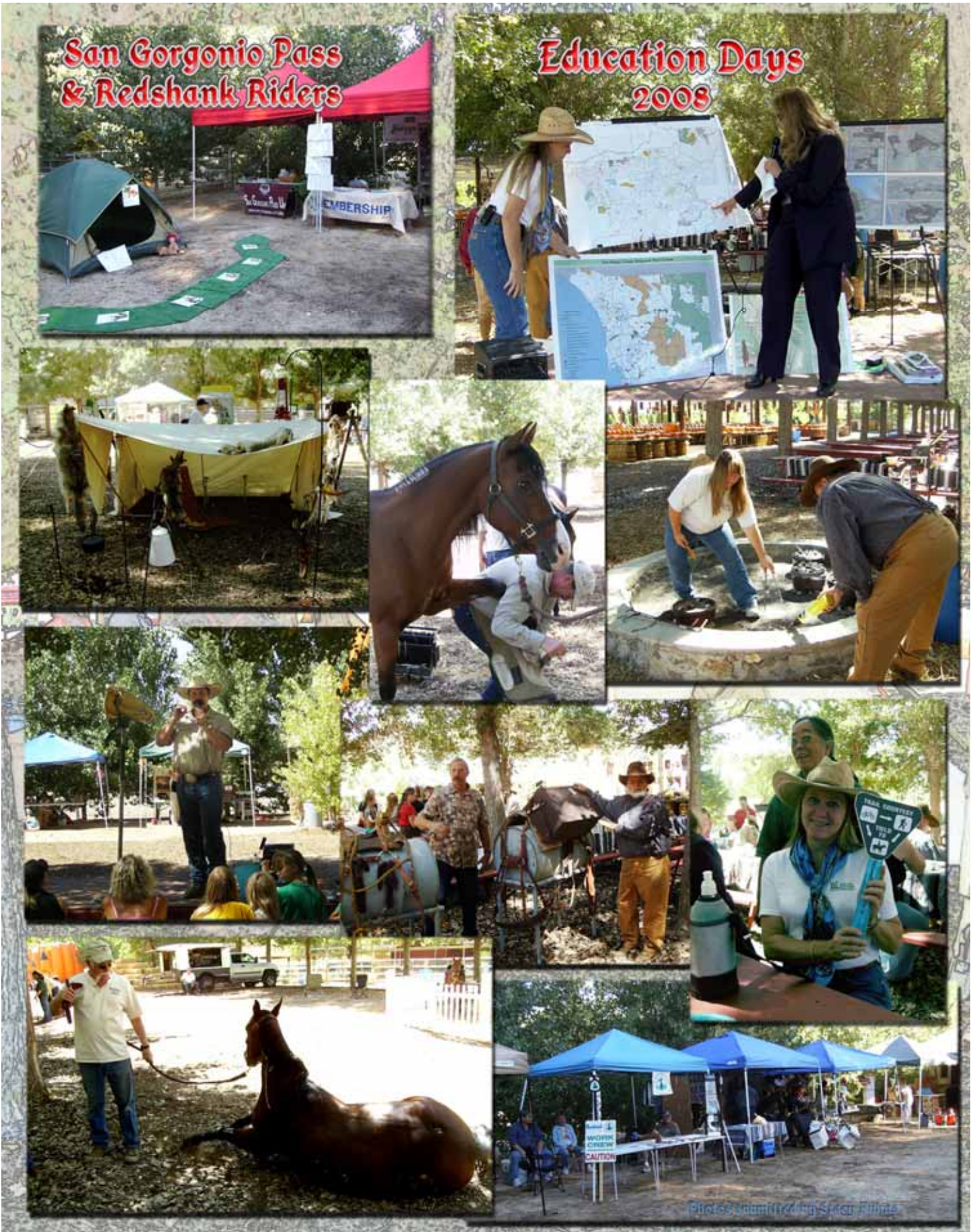
**RIDE FLYERS AT OUR WEBSITE:**

If anyone wants to download a flyer for an upcoming Redshank Rider ride you can find it on our website at:

**[www.RedshankRiders.com/rideflyers.html](http://www.RedshankRiders.com/rideflyers.html)**

There is a link at site map at the website for this new page so you may share the events with others.

**UNIT MEETING : Thursday****~ November 13th ~****Time:** Board Members 6:30 pm - General 7:00 PMLos Caballos Veterinary Hospital  
43250 Los Corralitos Rd, Temecula



Photos submitted by Stacy Kuhns - Collage by RestLeSs D Graphics 08

**\*Excerpts from a Dog's Diary\***

8:00 am - Dog food! My favorite thing!  
 9:30 am - A car ride! My favorite thing!  
 9:40 am - A walk in the park! My favorite thing!  
 10:30 am - Got rubbed and petted! My favorite thing!  
 12:00 pm - Lunch! My favorite thing!

1:00 pm - Played in the yard! My favorite thing!  
 3:00 pm - Wagged my tail! My favorite thing!  
 5:00 pm - Milk bones! My favorite thing!  
 7:00 pm - Got to play ball! My favorite thing!  
 8:00 pm - Wow! Watched TV with the people! My favorite thing!  
 11:00 pm - Sleeping on the bed! My favorite thing!

**\*Excerpts from a Cat's Diary\***

*Day 983 of my captivity.*

My captors continue to taunt me with bizarre little dangling objects.

They dine lavishly on fresh meat, while the other inmates and I are fed hash or some sort of dry nuggets. Although I make my contempt for the rations perfectly clear, I nevertheless must eat something in order to keep up my strength. The only thing that keeps me going is my dream of escape. In an attempt to disgust them, I once again vomit on the carpet. Today I decapitated a mouse and dropped its headless body at their feet.

I had hoped this would strike fear into their hearts, since it clearly demonstrates what I am capable of. However, they merely made condescending comments about what a "good little hunter" I am.

There was some sort of assembly of their accomplices tonight. I was placed in solitary confinement for the duration of the event. However, I could hear the noises and smell the food. I overheard that my confinement was due to the power of "allergies." I must learn what this means, and how to use it to my advantage.

Today I was almost successful in an attempt to assassinate one of my tormentors by weaving around his feet as he was walking. I must try this again tomorrow -- but at the top of the stairs. I am convinced that the other prisoners here are flunkies and snitches. The dog receives special privileges. He is regularly released - and seems to be more than willing to return. He is obviously retarded. The bird has got to be an informant. I observe him communicate with the guards regularly. I am certain that he reports my every move. My captors have arranged protective custody for him in an elevated cell, so he is safe. For now... )

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 Large Animal Medicine & Surgery

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Clinton H. Dennison, D.V.M. Anita C. Dennison, D.V.M., M.S.

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 Las Carraltes Rd., Temecula, CA 92592  
 Phone: (951) 302-9000  
**LOS CABALLOS VETERINARY HOSPITAL, INC.**

## Tentative Event and Ride Schedule 2008 - 09:

**October**

**Oct** State board meeting  
**Oct 11-12:** Camping at Casper Park  
**Oct 18-19:** Vaqueros Days in Descanso

**November**

**Nov. 1-** Treasure Hunt Ride-Anza (see flyer in this issue)  
**Nov. 15-16:** Annual Anza Borrego Work Party

**December**

**Dec 7th** - Holiday Ride- hosted by Carol Schmuhl

**Jan 2009****Feb 2009**

# November 2008

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Turkey Treasure Hunt
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Monthly Meeting	14	15 Annual Anza Borrego Work Party
16 Annual Anza Borrego Work Party	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



### UNIT MEETING

Thursday

11/13

**Redshank  
Riders  
Monthly  
Meeting**



# December 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Ride & Elections at Carol Schmuhs	8	9	10	11 NO Monthly Meeting	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**BCHC Website**

**www.BCHCalifornia.net**



Have you got some pictures  
From a ride or event you would like to  
share in the newsletter or website? Email  
me at [editor@redshankriders.com](mailto:editor@redshankriders.com)



RedShank Riders  
BCHC  
P.O. BOX 383  
Agunga, Ca 92536



Dec. 7th Ride,  
Meeting  
& Elections  
at  
Carol Schmuhl's  
see you there!

