



<b>2012 Officers</b>	<b>Issue 1</b>	<b>JANUARY 2012</b>
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Hi Guys

Wow it is 2012. Hope everyone enjoyed Christmas and New Years. We've all been super busy winterizing. I wonder some mornings where I moved to. It's dang cold here buddy! But I wouldn't go back to where I lived for nothing. This is awesome. Enjoy your days, Enjoy your stock. They will make rotten days better and good days great. With the Holidays I haven't had near enough saddle time, and it makes me a bit crabby. Been busy looking at the BLM Management Plan, etc, Lots of interesting reading to say the least. I am very excited to start packing this year. Looking forward to getting the boys out more often. This seems much easier than riding tandem! As most of you know, my trick riding availability is not so good.

Congrats to Rhonda for the State recognizing the great work she has done for our unit newsletter. Rhonda, You've got this!

I am very excited to continue the great work with the Board from last year. It will be hard to exceed the accomplishments of 2011. We accomplished a lot so the bar is set high. Welcome Pebbles to the Education Chair Position.

I will be attending the first State Board meeting this month in Visalia. If you haven't yet, please get the volunteer hours ASAP to Ron Lawson at [rlsaddle@verizon.net](mailto:rlsaddle@verizon.net) This information is very valuable. I am excited to be able to help do some packing of supplies to work crews. I expect that my ponies will enjoy it as much as I will.

Our first event of the year will be a packing clinic at Mike Lewis' house Sunday January 15<sup>th</sup>, start at 930 am. This is a BCHC Member event. Please RSVP 951-760-9255, as we are providing lunch.

The Christmas Party was a hit. Thanks Carol for opening your home. The food and the gift exchange were awesome. Fun times! We had a few new members at the ride and I think they had a great time also.

Mark your calendar for Rendezvous at Tehama County Fairgrounds in Red Bluff on March 30-April 1<sup>st</sup>. We will get you more info as it comes available. We distributed raffle tickets at the Christmas party from the State for the Raffle at Rendezvous. They just sent another batch of raffle tickets, that are for a packing trip or round pen.. They cinched the deal for the pack trip after the tickets were printed and sent to all units.. if you had purchased tickets and would like the pack

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trip instead of the round pen, please let Audrey or I know and we will change them out for you.. Sorry about the mishaps.

Mark your calendars Feb 2-4,2012 for the Horse expo in Pomona. There will be clinics and also competition called PROJECT COWBOY. The Project Cowboy search will find "The Great American Horseman" who will be awarded \$10,000 cash and provided with a host of benefits to help launch their cowboy career. This is a guy only event and the same event will be cowgirls at the Horse Expo in Sac in June. This sounds like fun to me to watch !

Reminder to get to me by Jan 11<sup>th</sup> what 'work parties" you've attended in 2011. We can then pull winner for the cash prize. **The first General meeting of the year will be at the Little Red Schoolhouse on Thurs Jan 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.** Board will meet at 6PM. Please come with ideas you would like to see in 2012 so we can then draft a budget and get started.

There is a calendar fundraiser for the state made up by photos of some BCHC cowgirls throughout the state. They can be purchased at the following link. \$20.00 each calendar:

<https://www.lulu.com/commerce/index.php?fBuyContent=11980013>

Cya on the trails, Stacy

*\*For your convenience, all board members contact information is on the 1st page of each newsletter*



We had a fabulous time at Carol Schmuhl's house for the December Ride,  
Potluck Party & the General Meeting & Elections.  
To see more photos of the event go to [www.Redshankriders.com](http://www.Redshankriders.com)

**[www.BCHCalifornia.org](http://www.BCHCalifornia.org)**

## Redshank Riders Dec 4th, 2011 Meeting Minutes

**Location:** Carol Schmuhl's home

Meeting began at 2:25 pm

Attendees/ 3 guests: Valerie Schmidt, Susan Derth and Tammy

Anne read the minutes from November; Mike moved to accept, Greg 2nd.

**Treasurers Report:** Mike reported that we had an income (from dues rebates and a donation from Marsha) totaling \$252. Ending balance: \$4412.15

**Membership Report:** Our 3 guests all signed up as new members.

**Trail Development & Maintenance:** Mike reported that the Packing is filling up quickly. The clinic will be held on January 15th at his ranch. He also told us about the Tule Springs project building retaining walls, rock steps and check steps. (see pg 6 for story & photos). The workers were young adults from all over the country.

**Adopt a Highway:** No report

**Public Lands:** No report

**Education:** No report

**Newsletter:** We are still working towards eliminating the mailing & having all members receive the newsletter via email.

**Historian:** No report

**Unfinished Business:** the deadline for submitting volunteer work hours has been extended to the January meeting. Your logs must be given to Ron Lawson. Ron needs our volunteer hours! email to: [rlsaddle@verizon.net](mailto:rlsaddle@verizon.net)

**New Business:** We voted on the 2012 BOD:

VOTED TO CONTINUE in 2012:

Stacy Kuhn, **President**

Audrey Turpin, **Vice President**

Mike Lewis **Treasure**

Anne York, **Secretary**

Volunteering to start or continue in 2012:

Carol Schmuhl, **Membership & Historian**  
Rhonda Strickland, Newsletter Editor with Audrey Turpin as **Co-Editor**

Pebbles Bartlett-Lewis **Education** (needs a partner to help).

Sandy Korman & Robyn Prinzing, **Ride committee** (and hopefully Cathy Firth)

**Rides:** TBA

Next meeting will be at the Little Red Schoolhouse in Anza on Thursday, Jan. 12, 7pm.

**Meeting Adjourned:** at 3:00 pm. Moved by Mike, 2nd by Anne



# Business Card Ad

your ad will appear in every  
Redshank Rider Newsletter  
& the website for one year.

contact Anne: [anne@starfiredesignstudio.com](mailto:anne@starfiredesignstudio.com) for more info

## \$50 for 1 Year

## CALLING ALL UNITS

(submitted by Stacy Kuhns)

Rendezvous is on the way! Some of the best ways to generate funds are the live auction, silent auction and raffles. In order to expand this for Rendezvous 2012, we need every unit's help. To expand this to a public raffle on Saturday and Sunday and a possible silent auction on Friday night, we need more raffle and auction items over and above the traditional unit donation of \$1.00 per unit member. Each unit putting together a small committee to canvas their local area for donations, ads or sponsorships can do this easily. Even though they are not in the area as the Rendezvous, their donation or ad space will show their support of your local unit and BCHC. What has worked well for me is I explain to them what we do. I hit on the key points. I tell them that we open and maintain trails so that all trail users can enjoy. I have the program ad cost form and the sponsorship forms in hand. The program ad cost is a great tool as I explain to them that with their merchandise donation they get free ad space equal to the WHOLESALE value of the item. They love to get something in return for their donation. Remember the size of the ad is based on the wholesale value of the item and you need to write the retail value of the item at the bottom of the form. Donations do not need to be equine related—anything works. If businesses or people just want to donate an item and not participate in the ad space for the program that works for us too. Don't give up. At times they say they want to think about it and I give them a week or so and then I stop by again. I have found that 9 to noon are the best times in the morning and 1 to 4 are best in the afternoon. From 12 to 1 no one is usually there that can make a decision.

The forms are located on the BCHC website. Go to Rendezvous 2012 and all the forms are listed on the left side. The sponsor cover letter explains who we are, what we do and about Rendezvous. The sponsor form is a breakdown of what the sponsors get for their level of monetary donation. The program ad cost form is what we use for donations and ad space. This has the breakdown of what size ad the donor gets for the wholesale value of the item. Example: An \$80 ceramic bowl with a mule on it would be entitled to a half page ad in the program. Have these forms printed out and in hand when you go to the businesses. I fill out the bottom portion while I am there. You keep this form. At the end of the day cut off the bottom portion and tape it to the item.

All business cards for the ads are to be mailed to:

Shari Kaufner  
11521 Quartz Avenue  
Montague, Ca. 96064

Her phone # is 530 459-4178

Ads other than business cards need to be camera ready & the business needs to email them to Shari directly at skphoto@cot.net

Any checks received for the ads need to be sent to Larry Shuman (address is on the form). If you have received cash for any ads, deposit the cash in your unit's account and mail a check for that amount to Larry Shuman stating on that check that this is cash received for the ads.

Keep a running list of the donor's ads and sizes and email them to Shari by February 1, 2012 so we can make sure we have them all for the program. Make sure you keep a copy of the list for yourselves. This is essential in the event of a computer crash. The drop-dead date for all ads is FEBRUARY 10, 2012. No ads received after that date will be placed in the program.

If you have any problems with this no matter how big or small, you can call me at 530 436-2604 or email me at wildwind1@cot.net. This is a great opportunity for us to expand the Rendezvous profitability.

Thank you,  
Pat Snider  
Rendezvous Committee Member

Backcountry Horsemen of California

**RENDEZVOUS**  
Building Wilderness Skills

MARCH 30 - APRIL 1, 2012  
Red Bluff, CA  
Tehama County Fairgrounds

**FREE Admission to Fairgrounds**

Events	Seminars
Horse Trainers • Contests	Packing 101 • Trail Trials
Vendors • Kids Activities	Gentle Use Skills
Dinner, Dance and Auction	Wilderness Safety
Wine & Cheese Fundraiser	Equine & Human First Aid
Cowboy Church • Raffle	Dutch Oven Cooking
United States Marine Corps	Public Lands Access
BLM Adoptions & More	Saddle Fitting & More

Open to the Public! Fun for the whole family!  
Advance Your Backcountry Riding & Packing Skill!

For more information, visit [www.bchcalifornia.org](http://www.bchcalifornia.org) or contact Larry Shuman at (530)527-8907 or (530)526-0590 or email: [Lshuman62@gmail.com](mailto:Lshuman62@gmail.com)

## Ground Poundin with the SCA ( on the PCT )

(Or why I left my mules at home) By: Michael Lewis

In the past few years, our packers have hauled thousands of pounds of tools & supplies along hundreds of miles of trails, over all kinds of terrain in all kinds of weather and I am very glad to be a part of that. One of the groups we have packed for on numerous occasions is the Student Conservation Association, or the "SCA". Last month I got invited by Sam Commarto to help out an SCA crew on a retaining wall project in our area known as Tule Springs.

The project was less than a mile from a dirt road so I had to leave my pack animals at home, traded spurs, chaps, and a cowboy hat for work boots, gloves and a hard hat. Also, instead of rising at 4:30 am to feed and ready the stock I got to sleep in till 6:30.



Digging the foundation

When I arrived and started meeting the crew I found I had packed for them a couple of times this summer, Mission Creek and Apache Springs. These kids come from all over the US to work on these projects. Massachusetts, New York, South Carolina, Washington, to name a few. After intro's we went to work, Some on numerous check steps and others including me on out-sloping sections of trail. When Sam arrived a group of us, along with Sam, headed for the washout where the retaining wall would be. It was a mess and I had no idea what it would take to fix but Sam already

had a plan. We went to work digging the foundation and gathering rocks for the wall. Sam pointed to some very large stones a ways down the wash that he wanted brought up and I thought, are you kidding me? Well, he wasn't.

I got the opportunity to use a grip-hoist to drag up some of the larger stones ( more appropriately boulders if you ask me ). Now I have packed a few of these things ( grip-hoists ), and it was nice to see one in action, even if it was me on the handle. It's amazing how large of a rock you can move with one of these things. In the few days I spent on this project I learned a lot about building check steps and retaining walls that will last through all types of weather and stand up over time



Using a grip-hoist to move boulders



Gettin it just right

This was a hard working crew and I had my turn with the grip-hoist, pick, shovel, rock bar, sledge hammer, and even did some shaping with a hammer and chisel. Makes me appreciate the time and effort it takes to maintain a trail like the PCT. These guys and gals spend weeks at a time living in tents in all weather and work without complaint. Most of this crew hiked over the PCT from Mt. Laguna in San Diego County to get to this job. From day one they accepted me as one of their crew and included me on their decisions and in turn listened to my suggestions on how to make the trail more equestrian friendly. It was hard work but it comes with a great amount of satisfaction. Most of the crew I will probably never see again, but every time I ride down that section of trail I will remember them all and know I had a hand ( literally ) in keeping that section open.

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I hope I have the opportunity to work with whatever crew next year brings to our area. Thanks again to Sam Commarto, Sterling, Nate, Whit, Andrea, Jesse ( aka Gertrude ), Alana, Chas, Paddy, and Danny.

A bit about Sam. He and three others were hired by the PCTA two years ago to help build the PCTA's volunteer base. Through the hard work of our former president Bob Jones and Sam, members of our group began to get involved. Mostly with packing trail crews. Sam made it a point get our ideas on ways to make the PCT more equestrian friendly. He was also the reason five of our members got crosscut saw certifications by pushing to have a training class in our area. . He also held, on his own time, a trail building and maintenance class. PCT funding for Sam's position was for two years and his hitch ends the end of December. He will be sorely missed.



Crew with nearly completed wall

Anyone who has worked with Sam may want to email the PCTA and let them know how much he was appreciated. You can use this link: [http://pcta.org/contact\\_us/](http://pcta.org/contact_us/). We all need to make sure our relationship with the PCTA continues into the future.

## VOLUNTEER HOURS

*A little background on why we track volunteer hours.*

The State organization— [Backcountry Horsemen of California](#) (BCHC)— requires that our unit submit our volunteer hours each year, which are then combined with all the other units in California to create a grand total of volunteer

work performed on public lands by BCHC. These hours translate into a very large **dollar value** and give the State and National Backcountry Horsemen organizations the **clout** they need to negotiate with the various federal, state, and local agencies to establish and maintain **access** of horses, mules, and their owners (us!) **to our public lands**.

It is important so please try your best to report your hours.

# GoodDining

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**2012 General Meeting will be on Thursday, January 12th**  
**@ The Little Red Schoolhouse, Anza ~ 7:00 pm**

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

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA

# RENDEZVOUS



**ENJOYING THE BACKCOUNTRY EXPERIENCE**  
**MARCH 30, 31 & APRIL 1**  
**Red Bluff, CA • Tehama County Fairgrounds**

**Events Include:**

- Trainers: Barry Krohn & Jerry Tindell • Dinner, Dance & Auction •
- Kids Activities • Raffle • Beer, Wine & Cheese Fundraiser •
- Vendors • Cowboy Church on Sunday • Contests • & More! •

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC • ADMISSION IS FREE**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit [bchcalifornia.org](http://bchcalifornia.org)  
 Or contact Larry Shuman at (530) 527-8907 or  
 (530) 526-0590 or email: [Lshuman62@gmail.com](mailto:Lshuman62@gmail.com)



**Trail Classes:**

- Navigation on Horseback
- Trail Maintenance & Construction in the Wilderness
- Tools for Trail Building & Maintenance
- Crosscut Saw Use
- New JHAs for Region 5

**Equine Classes:**

- Natural Hoof Care
- Legs & Leg Issues
- Colic - What is it?
- General Equine Health
- Equine Dentistry
- Saddle Fitting
- Stock Emergency First Aid
- Animal Trail First Aid & Treatment
- US Marine Corp Packing Demonstration
- Predators
- Livestock Poisoning Plants
- Manure Management
- Pasture & Paddock Management
- Barn Yard Economics
- Livestock Law
- Security & the Family Farm
- Grazing/Fire Suppression
- Farm Accounting & Tax Filing
- Environmental Pasture Management
- Breeding for Mules

**Packing Classes:**

- Packing 101
- Packing 101 with Stock
- Advanced Packing Skills
- Odd Load Packing
- Highlines and Picketing
- Packing Knots & Their Uses
- Pack Saddle Types & Use
- Pack Stock & Packing Techniques in Wilderness

**Gentle Use Classes:**

- Gentle Users Plan & Prepare
- Gentle on the Trail
- Gentle Stock Management
- Gentle Use of Campsites
- Gentle with Plants & Animals
- Gentle Concepts

**Miscellaneous Classes:**

- Dutch Oven Cooking
- Trail Head Horse Camping
- Wilderness First Aid for People
- Trailer Safety
- Leather Working for Adults
- Miniature Donkey Demo

**Contests:**

- Western Art Show
- Trail Trials
- Dutch Oven Cookoff
- Odd Load Packing Contest
- Gentle Use Camp Contest
- Kids Art Contest

**Kids Classes:**

- Youth Safety with Horses & Mules
- Leather Working for Kids & Adults
- Plan & Prepare for the Backcountry Trip with Kids
- Survival 101 for Kids
- LNT for Kids
- Kids Costume & Stick Mules Contests
- Animal Footprints
- Kids Art Contest
- Youth Iron Mule Packing
- Balancing & Matching Bags & Boxes
- Wild Animal Encounters
- Stick Horse Obstacle Course
- Stick Horse Rodeo

Art Created by Jacque Murphy



## REDSHANK RIDERS - BCHC PACK CLINIC

SUNDAY - JANUARY 15, 2012

AT 9:30 - ?

MIKE & PEBBLES LEWIS HOME

52820 ELDER CREEK RD AGUANGA, CA. 92536

This is a BCHC Education Event

Must be a BCHC Member - If you're not you can join that day

Please call Mike at (951) 760-9255 if you are attending

With number who will be in your party

**Lunch will be provided**

**We will be going over;**

How to Pack Proper Loads and Tie Hitches

Proper Gear and Hitch for Load

Stock Handling and SAFETY

You will be working with a Dummy Mule and a Live Mule

Odd Loads and Load Balancing

**BRING YOUR LEAD ANIMAL, WE WILL PROVIDE PACK ANIMAL**

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Greg Bruce

# January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Redshank General Meeting 7pm Little Red Schoolhouse	13	14
15 Pack Clinic @ Mike Lewis ranch 9:30am	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## Backcountry Horsemen of California 2012 Cowgirl Calendar



**Support BCHC and Keep Track of the  
Upcoming Year.**

**Buy a Backcountry Horsemen of California  
Cowgirl 2012 Calendar**

**Go to [BCHCalifornia.org](http://BCHCalifornia.org) & click on  
the LULU button.**

**Just \$20.00 & for a great cause.**

## Tentative Event & Ride Schedule 2011-12

**Jan 12** – RSR General Meeting @ the Little Red Schoolhouse  
on Hwy 371 at 7 pm

**Jan 15** – Pack Clinic @ Mike Lewis ranch 9:30am

**Feb** –

**Mar 30-Apr 1** – Rendezvous Tehama County Fairgrounds

# Star Milling Co.

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*Integrity*



Unit Meeting  
 ~ Thurs., Jan 12th ~  
 at the Little Red School House

Agunga, Ca 92536

P.O. BOX 383

BCHC

Redshank Riders



***Objectives and Purpose of the  
 Backcountry Horsemen of California***

*from the BCHC Bylaws*



- To improve and promote the use, care and development of California backcountry trails, campsites, streams and meadows; to advocate good trail manners.
- To promote the conservation and utilization of our backcountry resources in concert with livestock transportation.
- To keep current information before the Corporation membership and its local Units regarding new legislation or management plans related to government regulations of the backcountry.
- To support or oppose new proposals, plans and restrictions as related to the interest of horsemen and those persons interested in recreational stock use and enjoying the backcountry.
- To promote the interest of people who, due to health or physical factors, need transportation other than by foot on backcountry trails.