

# Tails From The Trail

Backcountry  
Horsemen of  
California

REDSHANK RIDERS  
Monthly Newsletter

Backcountry  
Horsemen of  
America

Concerned Men and Women Dedicated to Working to Preserve the Historic Use  
of Trails with Recreational Pack & Saddle Stock

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## Issue 10

## OCTOBER 2012

Hi Gang,

The membership drive is Nov ride 17-18<sup>th</sup> Fobes. Come out and ride on Saturday and we will be camping overnight then on Sunday doing a poker ride. This will be an easy ride, as there are a few of us that know some spots many of you may not be aware of. We will be eating yummy Dutch oven vittles. Great chance to just come out and hang with everyone, swap some lies; oops I meant to say stories!

California State Parks will be undertaking revisions to the Code of California Regulations related to trail use and management. It is expected that it will take approximately a year to go through the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) process which will include opportunities for full public involvement and formal public hearings. I have been asked to attend the focus group meetings in Southern California on behalf of Backcountry Horseman. I will keep you all posted.

The Rendezvous for March is coming together. Let one of us know if you would like to participate, we can use many hands. We also will be having a Redshank Riders Unit booth at the event. Audrey may be asking for help doing the trail trial event. We are also in charge of the wine, beer and cheese vendor appreciation in the vendor area. I'm sure you will all want to attend. For 15.00 you will receive a very cool glass (goblet or stein) etched with the BCHC Logo and entry to the tasting booths that will be located in the vendor area. This will be while the vendors are still selling items... Oh this is gonna be a lot of fun.

Don't forget to be keep track of your work hours. If you have any questions let me know. They are making it easier to track, the hard part is remembering to write them down You may want to put a small pad of paper in your vehicle and put the mileage, hours, etc.

We had a small but mighty group of Redshank Riders attend the opening of the arena at Lake Riverside Estates. Audrey and I did a demonstration on what backcountry horseman does locally and a pack

(Continued on page 2)

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demonstration. Mike Lewis stopped by and we pulled him into the arena with us. We had a great time and super good exposure. We got to be the first ones riding in the arena. They will be adding things as the funds roll in like bleachers, tress, hitchin' rails. We can use the LRE arena for future BCHC events, after approval of course. Carol got a few new members that came to our booth; we had a few join after because of seeing Backcountry Horseman that day. I have only heard good things. I am glad we participated.

We packed again this year the scientists' gear from the Natural History Museum of San Diego. Everyone had a great time and lots of specimens came off the mountain on redshank stock. It was great to see Tom and Cathy; I just tried my best to make sure everything went well so I would not end up in a chapter of his next book. Thanks everyone that came out to help and Ron and Sandy for hooking everything up. Greg Bruce and his family came out and helped pack in the gear also. I think everyone had a good day!

The next monthly meeting will be at the Little Red Schoolhouse in Anza at 7pm on Oct 11<sup>th</sup>. Hope you can make it. Since Audrey stepped up to the education chair she will be attending the state meeting in Visalia. I will have a power point presentation on the accomplishments of Redshank Riders over the last 12 months. I am putting it together for the state meeting so I will show it off to all our members in November at our monthly meeting. Hope to see ya there!

Cya on the Trail, Stacy and Joe with the pack mare (Jessy)

## Dues Increase for BCHC

The first dues increase is for BCH of California and if elected will start to be collected in January of 2013. The second dues increase is the BCH of America which will not be collected until January of 2014. Both increases are \$5. This is all subject to the vote of the BOD at the state meeting on Oct 13, 2012



Photo courtesy of Sandy Kinsman



## Rendezvous 2013

"From your Backyard, to your Backroads, to your Backcountry"

March 22-24 2013

George Ingalls Arena, Norco

- \*Clinician- Jerry Tindell
- \*100 plus Vendors
- \*Packing Classes
- \*Horsemanship Seminars
- \*Gentle Use Classes
- \*Beer, Wine and Cheese Fundraiser
- \*Trail Trials
- \*Youth Events
- \*Western Art Show
- \*Dutch Oven Cookoff
- \*Auction and Raffle
- \*Cowboy Church

FREE TO THE PUBLIC

## Redshank Riders Sept 13th, 2012

### Meeting Minutes

**Location:** Little Red Schoolhouse

**Meeting began** at 7:00 pm ~ 17 Attendees

Anne read the minutes from August and they were passed with no changes.

**Treasurers Report:** Mike reported no income, expenses of \$1,044.70. Ending balance \$4804.43

**Membership Report:** Lost 5 membership (7 persons) Hopefully we will sign up more from LRE at the equestrian event. Carol will have a booth.

**Trail Development & Maintenance:** Mike continues to pack for Forrest Service project at Fuller Ridge. There will be 2 more re-supplies before the end of Oct. Sunday the 16th there will be a pack-in with 10 mules. The 23rd - 28th is pack out. Mike also explained the Trail College and we have 5 members attending.

**Adopt a Highway:** Audrey will schedule next time when the weather cools

**Public Lands:** Action needed now for recreational trails program. Also thanks to everyone who contributed to resolving the hiker issue lawsuit. Stacy will send you an email with details on either of these points upon request. New movement is happening on the Palms to Pines Trail. Carol described the proposed route.

**Education:** Audrey has stepped up for this position.

**Newsletter:** No report

**Historian:** No report

**Unfinished Business:** No report

**New Business:** Next month Stacy will attend bi yearly meeting in Visalia - she will show us a Power Point presentation at the following meeting. Rendezvous Norco - Audrey need judges to help with the Trail Trials.

**Rides:** November 17th will be our annual Poker Ride possible at Fobes Ranch.

**Meeting Adjourned:** at 8:30 pm. Next Meeting October 11th at the Little Red Schoolhouse!

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## Just Right Horse Dentistry

951-514-9999

Greg Bruce

# Star Milling Co.

**Stacy Kuhns**

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# REDSHANK RIDERS



UNIT OF BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA

## UNIT FUNDRAISER - PACK SADDLE RAFFLE

### \$5.00 EACH OR 7 FOR \$20.00



INCLUDES FULLY  
RIGGED SAWBUCK  
PACK SADDLE ON  
HUMANE TREE,  
CINCH, PACK PAD,  
SET OF WOODEN  
PACK BOXES  
Value \$800.00  
MADE AND  
DONATED BY  
RSR MEMBER  
MIKE LEWIS



WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT

**DRAWING to be HELD ON MARCH 24, 2013**

**CONTACT**

STACY KUHNS 909-633-1705, AUDREY TURPIN 951-852-1705

or MIKE LEWIS 951-760-9255

# READ, DISCUSS, ACT

HR 1996 *Submitted by Stacy Kuhns*

The Equal Access to Justice Act is the law that allows organizations like High Sierra Hikers Assn. to sue the federal government using high powered legal firms in cases like the Sequoia Kings Canyon NP lawsuit that attempted to stop commercial packing, grazing and use of "luxury items" in the Parks and have the government pay their lawyers. This law also funded the lawyers in the Inyo/Sierra commercial pack stock decision, another suit brought by and won by the High Sierra Hikers Assn. These types of lawsuits are harmful to the goodwill and focus of the agencies and are a waste of your tax dollars.

There now is a bill in Congress, HR 1996, which would amend the original law to help eliminate these types of lawsuits that these elitist organizations are filing. We should be doing everything we can to get this bill through congress, because unless this law is changed, we will continue to see these organizations attacking stock use on public lands using your tax dollars. Please put forth an effort to work with your representatives in Congress to get this bill passed into law.

Below is the content of a letter sent to our BCHC Vice President, Richard Waller when he contacted his congressman about this bill which describes the background on the law. I also am attaching a copy of the bill for your reference.

Bob

Dear Richard:

Thank you for contacting me in support of H.R. 1996, the Government Litigation Savings Act.

H.R. 1996 was introduced on May 25, 2011, referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. As you may know, the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) was enacted in 1980 to alleviate the financial burdens on resource-limited small businesses, non-profit organizations, and individuals when defending themselves from detrimental government actions in court. EAJA allows entities who sue the federal government to recover their legal fees if they win the case. In 1995 the act was amended, resulting in the termination of tracking payments for the EAJA. Since then, several environmental groups have sued the federal government and collected over \$37 million using EAJA and other laws. H.R. 1996 would reduce the cost taxpayers have to pay for attorney fees in cases against the federal government and restore EAJA to its original purpose, thereby increasing oversight by restoring transparency, instituting reforms that will focus on who is eligible for EAJA reimbursements, and preventing duplicative lawsuits. As your Representative in Congress, be assured that I will keep your comments in mind should H.R. 1996 come to the House floor for a vote. Thank you again for contacting me on issues of importance to you. If you would like additional information on services my office can provide you, my votes and positions on issues facing our nation, and to subscribe to receive periodic "e-newsletters," please visit my website at <http://kevinmccarthy.house.gov/>.

Sincerely,  
Kevin McCarthy  
Member of Congress

## San Jacinto Centennial Resurvey by the San Diego Natural History Museum

For the last two years, packers from Redshank Riders have assisted with a 3-year project, helping researchers from the San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM) by transporting their research equipment into remote areas of the San Jacinto Mountains. Some history: in 1908, researchers from the University of California explored and camped at 20 separate locations in and around the San Jacinto Mountains to conduct a study of the various species of wildlife in this area. They transported their gear with burros, and explored a large area from the Santa Rosa mountain area to Banning and from Palm Canyon to Hemet.

The SDNHM took on a project to re-visit those same 20 areas over a 3-year period to compare/contrast the original species data which was collected 100 years earlier. They have been collecting and observing mammals, birds and reptiles in those 20 areas. This information is subsequently shared with various agencies including the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

How are RSR packers helping in this project? Today, 17 of the original study sites are fairly accessible by vehicle, or a short hike, but three remote areas are not. Tahquitz Valley and Round Valley in the San Jacinto Wilderness area, along with Little Paradise in the Palm Canyon area require packing support. RSR packers, for the last two years, have volunteered their services to transport the equipment of the SDNHM researchers into these remote areas, and then a week later, pack them out.

Last month, RSR packers went into Tahquitz Valley for the third time with SDNHM gear and a week later retrieved same. We were blessed with beautiful weather and trail conditions for both trips.

Want to help? Next Spring, when the snowpack is diminished, we will gather a group of "human packers" to take the SDNHM equipment into Round Valley from the top of the Palm Springs tram. 25 of us will get a free ride on the tram, hike from the Long Valley station, and carry the SDNHM research gear to their campsite, as we have done for the past two years...so, find your old Scout pack and plan to join us.

We'll also be doing a pack trip with stock into Little Paradise in the Pinyon area in the spring of 2013; As the dates for these two trips get firmed up, I'll put them in the RSR newsletter.

Ron Korman



## 12 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT BURGLARS

1. Of course I look familiar. I was here just last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator
2. Hey, thanks for letting me use the bathroom when I was working in your yard last week. While I was in there, I unlatched the back window to make my return a little easier.
3. Love those flowers. That tells me you have taste... and taste means there are nice things inside. Those yard toys your kids leave out always make me wonder what type of gaming system they have.
4. Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up on the driveway. And I might leave a pizza flyer in your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it..
5. If it snows while you're out of town, get a neighbor to create car and foot tracks into the house.. Virgin drifts in the driveway are a dead giveaway.
6. If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your alarm company install the control pad where I can see if it's set. That makes it too easy.
7. A good security company alarms the window over the sink. And the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom - and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there too.
8. It's raining, you're fumbling with your umbrella, and you forget to lock your door - understandable. But understand this: I don't take a day off because of bad weather.
9. I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters. ( Don 't take me up on it.)
10. Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.
11. Here's a helpful hint: I almost never go into kids' rooms.
12. You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if it's not bolted down, I'll take it with me.



UNIT OF BACKCOUNTRY HORSMEN OF CALIFORNIA

# Poker Ride

Danishes, Coffee,  
etc. for Breakfast  
on Sale Sunday am  
\$3.00

Garner Valley Fobes ranch poker ride NOV 18th  
Free primitive camping eve of 17th.  
**the ride is Sunday 18th**

**OPEN RIDE**  
&  
membership drive!

ride out 10am  
length of ride 3-4 hours

**\$5.00 each**  
additional poker hand  
Additional dinner \$15.00

**new members  
sign up at the ride  
& receive a  
FREE poker hand**

raffle items.  
**DUTCH OVEN COOKIN'**  
dinner is at 2pm

**pre register by Nov 9th AND SAVE \$\$\$**

**\$30.00 member includes meal before nov 9 after \$35.00**

**\$35.00 non member includes meal before nov 9 after \$40.00**

**DIRECTIONS:**

From Temecula: Go to Hwy 371 through Anza to Hwy 74. Left onto 74 past the Fire Station watch for BCHC signs right onto Fobes Ranch Rd  
From Hemet: Take CA 74 up the hill past Lake Hemet then watch for signs to turn left onto Fobes Ranch Rd

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: BCHC REDSHANK RIDERS** mail to: 42405 Indian Hill Trail, Aguanga, Ca 92536  
for more info: Stacy Kuhns, 909-633-1705 [stacykuhns@aol.com](mailto:stacykuhns@aol.com)  
Audrey Turpin, 951-852-1708 [upacreekranch@netzero.net](mailto:upacreekranch@netzero.net)

name \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_ phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

how many riders \_\_\_\_\_ dinners only \_\_\_\_\_

# October 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 General Meeting	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Apple Canyon/May Valley Ride	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## Apple Canyon/May Valley Ride (AGAIN) Sunday, October 21

Yes, we're going to do it again...we've added two new trails and extended the length of the ride-it's now a 5-hour ride in some of the most scenic areas of the San Jacinto mountains. It's again a loop ride, starting in Apple Canyon, climbs Keen Camp Summit (elevation 4917 ft.), through Johnston Meadow and May Valley. We'll stop to water the horses mid-ride, again go through "Sandwich Rocks", and then onto one of the new sections of trail which will lead us to the "Missing Link".

Yes, there are some rocky areas (it's in the mountains, don'tcha know?), and the ride has a difficulty rating of 3 to 3.5, which means medium/difficult.

When: Sunday, October 21 We'll ride out at 10AM

RSVP: (This is important!) This time of year there is the potential of a fire closure, so we will need to be able to reach you should there be a forest closure.

Call us at 951-659-0332 or email [kormanhaus@verizon.net](mailto:kormanhaus@verizon.net)

Directions: from Hwy 74 in Garner Valley, turn north onto Apple Canyon Road, about 1/4 mile northwest of the Lake Hemet store. Travel 1 mile to the large parking area.

Bring: a mid-ride snack and personal water

Ride is open to all BCHC members

## *Tentative PCT Pack-In-Out Future Dates*

**Pack In for Season:** Oct 2, Oct 16

**Pack Out:** October 23-28th (whatever works). Ideally looking for 6-7 animals per food re-supply Come out and join in if you can. If you like you can ride along and just enjoy the view.

Contact Michael Lewis ~ (951) 760-9255 [mike@stumblinlranch.com](mailto:mike@stumblinlranch.com)

**Unit Meeting**  
 ~ Thurs., Oct 11th ~  
 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.