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

2013 Officers | Issue 2-3 | FEBRUARY 2013 / MARCH 2013

PRESIDENT / STATE REP
Stacy Kuhns
(909) 633-1705
stacykuhns@aol.com

VICE-PRESIDENT
Michael Lewis
(951) 760-9255
mike@stumblinlranch.com

SECRETARY
Anne York
(951) 662-2928
anne@starfiredesignstudio.com

TREASURER
Gail McCreight
(951) 767-9453
gail@cwt-inc.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR & WEBTECH
Rhonda Strickland
(951) 951-522-8757
redshank.webmaster@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER CO-EDITOR
Stacy Kuhns

EDUCATION
Audrey Turpin
(951) 852-1708
upacreekranch@netzero.net

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

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATORS
Carol Schmuhl
(951) 767-1061
Ifeedemandleadem@aol.com

Beth Shook
(951) 734-8776
qdisjuly4th@yahoo.com

HISTORIAN
Carol Schmuhl
(951) 767-1061
Ifeedemandleadem@aol.com

ADOPT A HIGHWAY
Beth Shook
(951) 734-8776
qdisjuly4th@yahoo.com

Hi Guys

Wow it has been so busy so far this year. I am hopeful that everyone is getting enough saddle time. I am trying to get caught up. Been riding when I can in the BMW and it is really coming along. Thanks Tom. The south trails look stellar and love the trail markers. The map that Mike has makes it easy to figure out how long of a loop I can make that day. I have had a question from a few members, when we are going to have another packing clinic? Mike and Tom, you have them waiting more. As soon as April 1st hits, we will start mapping out the rest of the year. Allison has scheduled our first official ride of the year in April. See flyer in this newsletter. Thanks Allison.

I'm sure you all have marked your calendar for Rendezvous in Norco March 22-24, 2013. We would like to get you all to drag a friend along and come down and hang out with us. We have over 50 speakers, education, more education, arena trail obstacle challenge on sat and Sunday. We have two clinicians, Jerry Tindell and Robin Bond that will be sharing their knowledge all three days. We have 50 plus vendors to date; the forestry is bringing their famous pack string also. On Sunday will be a horseshoe contest also. We are not full yet, but filling for the obstacle challenge, please contact Audrey for details.

I am very excited about getting another opportunity to see Dave Stamey in concert, this time at Rendezvous. He is awesome! In the future you will hear his music and you will remember good times, good friends and horses. We are having in the vendor arena a beer/ wine tasting on Saturday from 3-5pm, for only fifteen dollars. What a deal, and you get to keep a BCHC glass. This is a great way to mingle, relax and do a little shopping. If you have an artistic talent, please register your items in the western art show. We have a kid's area (making leather work, stick races, etc) so make sure you bring the entire family out. A lot of you have never seen anything this size, so make sure you come out to support your fellow backcountry

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

horsemen. On Friday night is a big dinner for all BCHC and the awards will be handed out. Then it's off to the concert. On sat night we will have a big dinner, raffle auction (lots of cool stuff) and more socializing. I have found that I have met fantastic people when I attend Rendezvous and I can see them each year and call them friends.

We have only a few weeks left. I have these at my house and I am avail to meet to get them to you. These all will be drawn at Rendezvous on Sunday. We have the following 3 items:

A sawbuck pack saddle complete with pad, boxes, etc (made and donated by Mike Lewis) 7 for $20.00 or $5.00 each***Proceeds to go to RSR.

7 day pack trip Rock Creek Pack Station. (Value $2500.00) 5 for $20.00 or $5.00 each

Saddle made by Gary Mc Clintock. (Value $2500.00). Tickets are 5 for $20.00 or $5.00 each. Gary said if you want to not take that particular saddle, he will apply $2500.00 to a custom saddle!! Sweet!

Redshank unit has had a very large part of this year's Rendezvous so if we have been a bit stretched, that is the reason. In 2014 it will be so much easier. Yes we are going to have it in 2014 if we show a profit and it looks great to obtain that financial goal.

We compiled all the volunteer hours that were turned in by members. I will give a total value at the next meeting. We were super busy in 2012 and it seems like we have not come up for air in 2013.

I attended the State Board meeting in Visalia. I will have an outline of the meeting in the next issue. This issue is showcasing Rendezvous!

We had a great Feb meeting and discussed all the things we need to get done this year. My oh my, what a list! We have been working hard to build up the checkbook and we can now get some things purchased to help us achieve our trail goals. We are also going to do some Grant writing this year. We found out there is money available, so we will give it a try.

The next general meeting will be at the Little Red Schoolhouse on Thurs March 14th at 7 PM...

Cya on the trails, Joe, the pack mare and Stacy

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Meeting Minutes Redshank Riders Jan 10, 2013
Location: Bedrock Salon

Meeting began at 7:05 pm ~ 16 attendees & 1 guest: Emily Machado

Anne read the minutes from December; Mike moved to accept, Beth 2nd

Treasurers Report: Mike reported expenses of $277.36 for reimbursements, trail tools and a first aid kit, leaving a balance of $5814.80

Membership: Carol reported that we acquired one new member in December bringing our year end total membership to 121. Solicitations to renew will be sent out via email. Stacy pointed out that we are the largest unit south of Bakersfield.

Historian & Membership: Carol is working on adding the Poker Ride photos to update.

Trail Development & Maintenance: Tom & Cathy Firth are spending a lot of time working on the Beauty Mountain trails, along with Mike & Stacy. There is a Kiosk in the works for the BM trail entrance. Mike help to fix a wash out on Table Mountain, and explained that a lot of work happens in the winter season as the weather is best.

Adopt a Highway: Beth reported that she visited Cal Trans and learned of the new more stringent rules. She has handouts with the new information and set up a clean-up for Saturday January 19th at 9am.

Public Lands: There will be a State Board meeting in Visalia on Feb 23. Stacy will present issues to be voted on at the Feb General meeting so we can weigh in.

Volunteer hours need to be submitted to Ron a.s.a.p.

Education: Rendezvous: Audrey would like to plan on doing a packing clinic at the 4H Fair in Perris in October.

Newsletter: 22 hard copies are being mailed, the rest are emailed.

Historian: Carol is working on adding the Poker Ride photos to update.

Unfinished Business: We discussed the decals for the trailer, the purchase of trail tools and a first aid kit and the jobs that need to be filled for the Rendezvous. Mike reported that a wireless P.A. system that we need for the Rendezvous should cost around $300 - $350 and will investigate further. This will be included in the budget proposal for a vote.

New Business: Stacy asked for commitments to work at the Rendezvous. We need many volunteers for posts and events. We still need more vendors and sponsors. Raffle tickets are available to sell for a

7 day pack trip and a Gary McClintock Saddle

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm. Gail moved and Gretchen 2nd

Meeting Minutes Redshank Riders Feb 17, 2013
Location: Little Red School House

Meeting began at 7:04 pm ~ 14 attendees

Anne read the minutes from January; Mike moved to accept, Lori 2nd.

Treasurers Report: Gail reported expenses of $85.00, income of 302.50 for an ending balance of $6032.30

Membership: Carol reported that we acquired 3 new members in January, bringing our year end total membership to 123.

Trail Development & Maintenance: Mike explained that a lot of work happens in the winter season as the weather is best. If anyone is interested in volunteering contact him. He recently attended a Trail Tools School for a weekend and blew up a rock with the "Boulder Buster." Pictures on page 5.

Adopt a Highway: On the recent scheduled (January 19th) - Beth reported that just 3 people showed up so only 2/3 of the area was cleaned up. She will announce an April date soon to have another work party.

Public Lands/Director: Stacy will attend the upcoming meeting and support implementing an on-line system for paying dues. Allison pointed out how this could increase sales and donations. Education: Audrey held a clinic for the judges for the upcoming Trail Trials for the Rendezvous. Historian: Received pictures from Lori of the Judging clinic.

Unfinished Business: Anne needs to do the decals on the RSR trailer and Mike needs to purchase a wireless P.A. system for the club.

New Business: Allison will plan a ride for April 28th. Flyer coming soon. We have window stickers available with our RSR logo. See Stacy to purchase. Small are $2, large are $3.

We also have coffee mugs with our logo to sell at the Rendezvous. It is important to pre-order dinner tickets. Susan G. volunteered to be in charge of our dinner table decorations.

We discussed installing a kiosk at Fobes to inform everyone of the rule of use for the area. Parking is allowed ONLY parallel to the road and on the shoulder, not the interior. We will be reimbursed for our expenses by the BCHC Education State Grant Funds.

Mike presented a budget that included spending some of our funds for things that are needed. Chuck moved to accept the budget as presented and Carol 2nd. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm. Mike motioned and Chuck 2nd.

Bicycles and the PCT

By: Michael Lewis

Recently the Forest Service's ban on bicycles has been challenged by a number of mountain bike groups and organizations. A "Call to Action" being circulated as of late is one such organization's attempt to have that ban rescinded. A little background on the Forest Service and the Pacific Crest Trail. Even though the PCT in its 2650 miles runs through a number of land management units, (for example, BLM, State Parks, Forests, to name a few), the overall responsibility for managing the PCT is with the Department of Agriculture (lead) and the Department of Interior. This responsibility has been delegated to the Pacific Southwest Regional Forester. Which means it sets the policies for travel on the PCT no matter which entity it passes through? In 1988, the United States Forest Service issued an **immediate and effective closure order** that prohibited "using or possessing a bicycle except by special-use authorization" on any portion of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail under Forest Service Jurisdiction. This act was further supported by the California Bureau of Land Management, citing that the trail was "designed for foot and equestrian use." A further penalty of $1,000 per offense was implemented. These bans have been in place and enforced since inception and have remained unchallenged until the Pacific Crest Trail Reassessment Initiative formed in 2010. On Feb. 5th, they (the Forest Service) determined to continue this ban, much to dismay of many cycle enthusiasts. As an equestrian, I myself support this ban and hope it remains in force forever. The following is a link to the letter the Forest Service responded with along with an excerpt from that letter. http://www.sharingthepct.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/FS-PCT-reply-2013-02-05.pdf

"Nation-wide the Forest Service provides the largest trail system in the nation with over 157,000 miles within the system. Outside of designated wilderness there are 125,962 miles of trail, of which 123,739 miles are open to mountain bicycling (98%) and 12,389 miles of trail managed specifically for mountain bicycling".

That's right; bicycles have access to 98% of Forest Service managed trails with 2% being for equestrians and hikers only. Anyone that has encountered a bicycle on the trail knows it can be a very tense and even dangerous encounter. So I say, let us have our 2% so we can ride in peace. Questions concerning the PCT? The following is the link to the USDA's PCT frequently asked questions. http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/pct/home/?cid=stelprdb5310782

Bill Carter, Pete Fish, Chris Yi, Edgar Gonzales, Doris Peddy, Thomas Firth, Gordon Mac Dermott, Ladd Stokes, Michael Lewis, Jill Stokes, Chip Herzig, Richard Leahy, George Boone, Chris Ryerson, Debbie Terry, Lyle Boelter, Dave Capron, Linda Clark-O'Brian and George Soliman

Annual tool school at the Stokes Ranch where we learn to use, repair, and maintain tools used on the trail.
More pics at: http://www.flickr.com/photos/roguephotonic/sets/72157632744978145/

Working on RSR's brush saw

Chain saw maintenance

Pins and feathers to crack a boulder
& the punjar in action

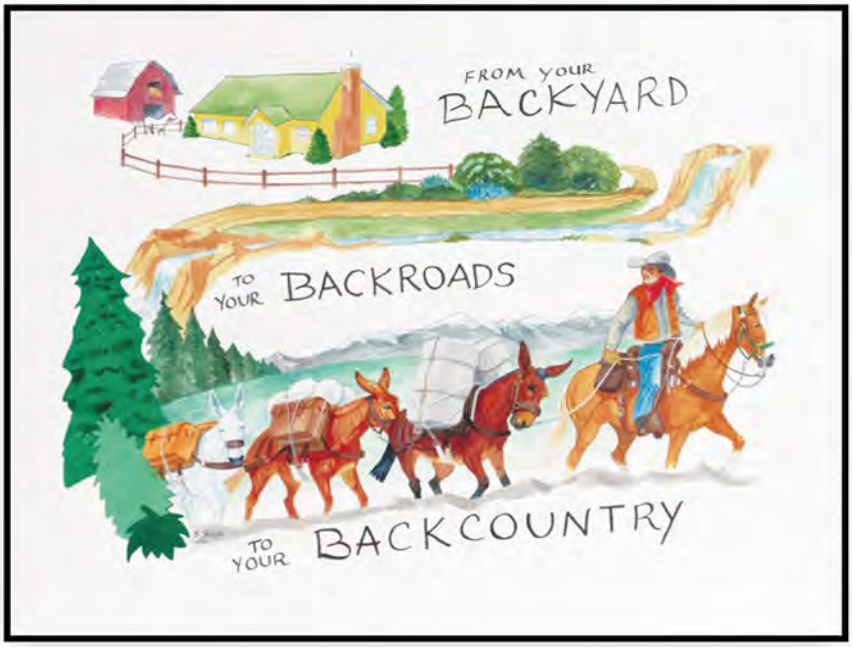
Cross cut saw work

"Boulder Buster" primed and ready — What we were all waiting for. — in Temecula.

Photos submitted by Michael Lewis

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA

RENDEZVOUS



MARCH 22-24

Norco, CA • Horsetown USA
George Ingalls Equestrian Event Center

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC • ADMISSION IS FREE

Events Include:

• Trainers: Jerry Tindell & Robin Bond •
• Dinner & Auction • Kids Activities • Raffle •
• Trail Trials • US Forest Service Pack Mule String •
• Beer & Wine & Cheese Meet & Greet • 100 Vendors •
• Cowboy Church • Contests • & More! •

Featuring Friday Night Show:

Dave Stamey
Nationally Acclaimed Cowboy
Entertainer www.davestamey.com
Advance Tickets: $22.00
At the Door: $25.00
For Event Ticket Packets or Stamey Tickets go to www.bchcalifornia.org click on Rendezvous 2013

FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit bchcalifornia.org
Or contact Roland Schmitz at (951) 833-6403 or email: roland@mntnrider.com
or Thaddeus at (951) 312-0724 or email: ctchod@aol.com

Trail Classes:
• Navigation on Horseback
• Trail Maintenance & Construction in the Wilderness
• Tools for Trail Building & Maintenance
• Crosscut Saw Use

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 Aids & Treatment
• Livestock Poisoning Plants
• Manure Management
• Livestock Law
• Breeding for Mules

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

Gentle Use Classes:
• Gentle Use Plan Ahead & Prepare
• Gentle Use: Gentle with Other Users
• Gentle with Waste
• Gentle Stock Care
• Leave What You Find

Miscellaneous Classes:
• Dutch Oven Cooking
• Trail Head Horse Camping
• Wilderness First Aid for People
• Trailer Safety
• Leather Working for Adults
• Mountain Bike Awareness

Contests:
• Western Art Show
• Trail Trials
• Pack Scramble
• Pack Un-Scramble
• Dutch Oven Cookoff
• Odd Load Packing Contest
• Gentle Use Camp Contest
• Kids Art Contest

Kids Events
• Stick Horse Race
• Boot Race
• Dummy Roping
• + More

BLM Adoption

NEWS YOU CAN USE

JANUARY 15, 2013

AHC WASHINGTON UPDATE

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USDA Adopts Animal Disease Traceability Program

Introduction : The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has instituted its Animal Disease Traceability Program (ADTP) to improve its ability to trace livestock, including horses, in the event of a disease outbreak. The new system applies to all livestock moving interstate.

Under the new federal regulations, horses moving interstate must be identified and accompanied by an Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (ICVI). The new system is built on methods of identification and movement documentation that are already employed in the horse industry, e.g., written descriptions, digital photographs, brands, tattoos, electronic identification methods, and interstate certificates of veterinary inspection. The person or entity responsible for moving the horse interstate must ensure that it has an ICVI or other document required by the new rule.

The ADTP will be administered by the states with federal support. The new rules also apply to movements to and from a Tribal area. In those cases, the Tribal authorities are involved in the system.

Background: The horse industry has been dramatically affected by serious disease outbreaks in the last ten years, which have halted or restricted the movement of horses and the commerce surrounding the horses. The new program is intended to help the Department, state authorities and the horse industry better deal with such disease outbreaks and to minimize disease effects on horses and economic effects on owners and the industry.

This new rule is based on the previous National Animal Identification System (NAIS), which was the original voluntary system proposed by USDA to deal with disease outbreaks and traceability. Since the prior rule was voluntary and generated significant concerns over complexity, confidentiality, liability, cost and privacy, it was not supported and was rethought. USDA reconsidered its approach and decided that rather than attempting to identify every animal, every premise, and every movement to achieve traceability within 48 hours of a disease outbreak, it would develop a more limited and simpler system. The ADTP just adopted is the result. The new system does not require the registration of premises housing livestock or the specific reporting of individual movements of horses.

Effective Date The new rules will be effective March 11, 2013. We expect that there will be a transition period during which USDA has suggested it will not enforce the new rule. This is to give livestock owners time to understand the rules and make any changes necessary to comply. We don't know how long that period might be.

To read this information in more detail go to:

http://view.exacttarget.com/?j=fe5b1170716c0c7e7d14&m=feef1d757d6307&ls=fe22107674600c7e7c1678&l=fef81178756c06&s=fe1f17787c630575701073&jb=ffcf14&ju=fe2f11747765067a761478&r=0

VALLECITO DAYS

Mapping the West

March 15, 16, and 17th 2013
Vallecito Stage Station Regional Park
37349 County Route S-2 (mile marker 34-35), Vallecito Valley, California

Ramona Trails Association, Backcountry Horsemen-San Diego Unit, California State Parks, and San Diego County Parks, are pleased to sponsor the annual Vallecito Days. Join us to celebrate life on the 1860's frontier and the role of the Southern Overland Trail. Activities will include a tour the original stage station, the mountain man camp where you can try your hand at some of the skills needed in an 1860's life, visit with a Civil War infantry squad as they re-enact the California Column's 1862 march from California to Texas. Plus many other demonstrations and exhibits
Equestrian's activities begin on Friday evening with camp fire festivities and other entertainment. Saturday we will travel on a portion of the original Southern Overland trail arriving at the station just as they did over 150 years ago. Saturday evening you will enjoy a delicious catered dinner with music and guest speakers sharing the history of the area by lantern light as we relax inside the stage station.

Event camping is provided from Friday thru Sunday, 8 sites with 2 corrals each site are on a first come first reserved bases, other sites do not have corrals. Additional camping before and after the event is available thru www.sdparks.org. There are miles and miles of public trails available in the Hawi Vallecito Cultural preserve, part of Anza Borrego State Park and adjacent to Vallecito Stage Station. This event is a sell out every year, don't wait to make reservations.

Everyone is encouraged to dress in 1860's period attire for the week end
Contact Info: Terry Jorgensen tlh9749@yahoo.com 760_789_5185

Mail registration and payment to
RTA - Vallecito Event, P.O. Box 2136, Ramona 92065

Name:_____
Address:_____
Phone:_____ **Email:**_____
Type of rig (length):_____
Number of campers:_____ **Number of horses:**_____
Cost: $45.00 per rider (camp, ride + dinner):_____
$30.00 dinner only (camp +dinner, non riders): _____
Total Paid : _____

March 2013

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Unit Meeting	15 Vallecito Days	16 Vallecito Days
17 Vallecito Days	18	19	20	21	22 Rendezvous	23 Rendezvous
24 Rendezvous	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

REMINDERS

The next general board meeting will be on Thursday, Mar. 14 at the Little Red Schoolhouse. All are welcome to attend.

Unit meetings are always on the 2nd Thursday of each month unless otherwise stated.

Welcome New Members

- Mary Litch
- Linda Ruggieri
- Joanna Ellenbeck

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Aguanga, CA 92536

Unit Meeting

~ Thurs, Mar 14th ~

at the Little Red School House

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.