

2015 Officers

Issue 1/2

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2015

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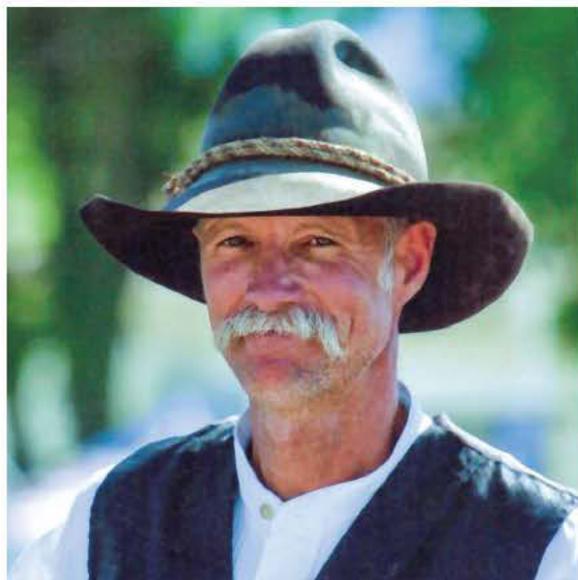
Hello Redshank Riders,

Let me introduce myself. My name is Michael Lewis and you have allowed me to be this years Redshank Riders president. Here it is, 2015, and no Norco BCHC Rendezvous to prep for.

What will this mean? Hopefully more rides and social events. It has already started off well with a new member on the board, Kate Cornell (secretary}. Also our ride coordinator for this year is Cindy Hay. As of this writing she has already put together a tentative ride schedule, got our first ride info to our webmaster who has sent it to our members. Looking forward to seeing everyone there. Thanks Cindy for starting off strong. We have also done a few trail projects thanks to Tom Firth. Bails Trail to Iron Spring Trail (Beauty Mountain Wilderness) is now passable to stock.

We have also just attended PCTA's Trail Gorilla tool school which was attended by members of the San Diego unit, San Gorgonio Pass unit, as well as Redshank Riders. Plans are in the works for a multi unit BCHC tool school in the near future. I would like to welcome our new members as well as those returning.

Michael Lewis



BCHC Redshank Unit Meeting Minutes October & November

Meeting Minutes - January 8, 2015

Location: 52820 Elder Creek Rd., Aguanga, CA 92536

Call to Order at 7:02pm - 20 members present

1 guest: John Cornell

Minutes not read –Audrey not present

Treasurer Report: No Report Treasurer not present

Membership Report: Bobby rejoined

Historian: No report

Trail Development & Maintenance: No Report

Packing Opportunity: To be announced

Public Lands: There is a January 17 Officers Training session in Jurupa Valley. The first half of the day is open to all. Lunch provided. Contact Stacy at (909) 633-1705

Adopt a Highway: Cathy Firth - Discussion of possibility for the last weekend in February, the 21st.

Education: Greg and Tom have volunteered. Bobby volunteered for January 29-Feb 1 to help at booth at Pomona Horse Expo.

End of Reports

Old Business: Discussion of work on Bailey Trail. A lively discussion about Volunteer Hours reporting, which need to be turned in to Stacy by Feb.1. The saddlebag version is available on website, but any version of reporting is acceptable. There is much discussion about the vital importance of tallying volunteer hours in order to document and maintain support and funding.

New Business: Mike distributed copies of RSR and BCHC bi-laws. 2015 budget was discussed. Tom talked about “Leave No Trace” day. Maybe Tom will speak at next meeting to more formally introduce. The concept of hosting one ride per month was promoted. A Ride Coordinator was summoned. Cindy Hay volunteered.

Possible hosts: Cathy for February, Greg for March, Tom for April, Anne for May, Stacy for September, and Janet for October. Gayle proposed that the host decide how to handle food at rides. Stacy proposed the two day Trail Trials take place in June or July. There is a general preference for early June.

Packing opportunities discussed, including the Fuller Ridge project.

Greg is looking for educational opportunities and is interested in reaching out to other clubs, especially youth.

Angel’s Camp booth proposed for March 13 & 14. Horses Head to Hoof booth possible at end of April, no date yet. Janet promotes concept of more partnership with Endurance Riding events. “Don’t Fence Me In” brand is introduced as a fund raising tool.

Endurance Ride proposed for May 9 & 10. Volunteers needed to help with trails, esp. exploring Thomas Mountain

Booth opportunity at staging area at Lake Hemet. Cezanne offers information about a benefit ride in Pauma Valley on Feb. 7. Information available on Facebook and RSR page.

Tom wants to strike “no ponying” from trail rules. Stacy will look for a file stating that it is or isn’t struck.

Tule Trail signs need to be tracked down from a chronic sign collector. There is much animated debate about how to handle this

Cahuilla trail gate needs to be re-set. Tom offers to get information on how to contact a new Ranger at his Desert office.

Meeting Adjourned 9:03 pm - Ed motioned. Tom—2nd



Adopt-a-Highway Highway Clean-Up

Date: 2/21/15 weather permitting

Location: Meet at the Chevron station in Anza

Time: 8:00-10:00 am

Please keep track of your mileage and travel time.

February RSR Trail Ride - Tule Peak

Date: 2/14/15 - Weather permitting.

Time: Saddled and ready to ride at 10:00 am.

Ride host: Cathy Firth

RSVP: [951/763-0405](tel:9517630405)

Length of ride: 4-4 1/2 hr. Bring water and lunch

Level of ride: 3

Description: Good conditioning ride, no water crossings, some rock, good diverse trail loop, scenic, water for horses at parking area, pipe trail gate at trail head, barefoot OK.

Directions: From 371 turn onto Bradford heading SE, turns into Tule Valley Rd. at (pavement ends, life begins sign), turn (L) onto Evening Star Rd., Turn (R) onto Carrot Ln., turn (R) onto Deer Springs Rd., bends hard left approx. 3/4 mi. to BCHC parking sign on (R).

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Stacy Kuhns

TERRITORY SALES MANAGER

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Integrity



Southern Units Represent Backcountry Horsemen of California at 2015 Horse Expo

Article and Photos Submitted by Allison Renck—Education Chair



Volunteers working the BCHC Booth



Pete Kriger educating about highlining



Packing Demonstrations



Keeping warm in the Gentle Use Display

Packing demonstrations, Dutch Oven Cooking and Education were the highlights of the Backcountry Horsemen of California (BCHC) Southern Units Trail Symposium Area at the 2015 Horse Expo held at the Fairplex in Pomona California. The San Diego, Santa Ana River, San Gorgonio and Redshank Riders Units combined their efforts on January 30, 31 and February 1 to educate local southern California Equine owners about BCHC.

The symposium area included; a "Gentle Use" camp display, Dutch oven cooking demonstrations, "hands-on" packing demonstrations, a member recruitment area and a presenter area. Sue Watkins of the San Gorgonio Unit was the chairperson for the event. With her organizational skills, she was able to pull together approximately twenty volunteers from the various units. These volunteers used their skills in a variety of ways, from teaching packing skills to recruiting new members for BCHC.

Bill Moser president of the Santa Ana River Unit and his wife Marcia Moser worked all three days educating the public about Dutch oven cooking and providing "mouth-watering" samples of these delicious dishes. Bill said "he likes seeing the people enjoying the food prepared in a Dutch oven, which often generates a desire to learn the art of Dutch oven cooking".

Pete Kriger, Tom Firth, Mike Lewis and Marty Jorgenson used the event to teach packing skills, from load positioning to load tying. A highline was set up to present to the public the proper way to highline your stock when camping in the back or front country.

June Scales, the lead in the "Gentle Use" camp display, created an educational display that was informative and fun to tour. Many of the visitors commented on the information provided and reported that it had increased their awareness of ways to be a better steward when camping with their horses.

The trail symposium featured a variety of presenters speaking on subjects from Lightweight Horse Camping by Robert Eversole from TrailMeister to Expanding your Trail Ride Adventures by Bonnie Davis. One informative presentation discussed ways to get different trail users involved in Trail Work, this topic was presented by Jim Meyer from Trails4all. Robert Eversole from TrailMeister said "he really enjoyed speaking at the Horse Expo, it was great to share experiences with all the people involved in the horse industry."

On the last day of the event one volunteer shared her experience of helping promote BCHC, "it's great to get out the word about what a great organization we belong to, and it's even more fun to hang out and get to know BCHC members from other units." "Not a bad way to spend a day".

PCTA Trail Gorilla Tool School

By: Michael Lewis - Photo's by: Pete Kriger and Michael Lewis



Trail Gorilla you ask. What the heck are those? Well, the "Trail Gorillas" are a group of dedicated volunteers that have adopted the job of maintenance on the PCT's southern 700 miles between the Mexico border and Kennedy Meadows. They have split up this portion of the PCT in to seven sections that correspond with the Wilderness Press PCT guidebook (Sections A-G). Each section is assigned to a volunteer Section Chief. Section Chiefs monitor their sections of trail and hold one or more work projects each year to address the trail maintenance issues. They hold day, weekend, and week-long projects. Each year they hold what is known as tool school to provide PCT volunteers information and instruction on the use and maintenance of hand and power tools used for trail maintenance.



The last few years I have had the privilege of helping out with this event. This year it was held at Bob Smiths Fobes Ranch. We had a record number of requests with more people than spots available. BCHC was well represented with members from San Diego Unit, Redshank Riders Unit, San Gorgonio Pass Unit, Antelope Valley and beyond. Friday afternoon was dinner, cooked by Pebbles, (chili, cornbread, and dump cake for desert), followed by introductions and orientation around the campfire, (campfire was replaced with a wood

burning stove inside a workshop, on account of the incessant hurricane force winds). Saturday found us once again seeking relief from the wind in the main house where in the morning we went over safe use, care, sharpening of traditional tool such as Pulaski's, McCleods, axes, bars, and loppers. Next up; basic info on the crosscut saw. After lunch we got into the dis-assembly and cleaning of brush saws and chain saws. Then it was outside into the wind to try our hand with the crosscut, brush, and chain saws. Later came dinner along with the ceremonial burning of broken tool handles. These were handles broken during the year by volunteers and, once again in the work shed stove. All but a couple of our tent campers took shelter in one of the buildings for the night.



Sunday morning breakfast then off to the grip-hoist and rigging demonstrations. A group got the chance to rig a grip-hoist to a fallen tree to put it in a better position to cut. Last is what everyone looks forward to; rock demolition with a Poinjar and Magnum Boulder Buster. I was asked to bring a couple of pack mules and did a demonstration on how we pack the equipment needed to make small rocks out of a large boulder. The Poinjar is a Swedish made, gas powered rock drill which we used to bore a small hole in a large piece of granite. The resulting hole was then filled with water, an explosive charge resembling a shotgun shell dropped in and the boulder buster is seated in the hole.

Another charge is put in the buster along with a primer. Then everyone runs for cover, a lanyard is pulled and ka-boom! The charge, along with the hydraulic action of the water reduces the boulder to an array of smaller, manageable pieces. After the oohs and aahs we loaded up the mules and returned to camp thus concluding Tool School. Because of the interest there is talk of a fall tool school. Stay tuned.





BCHC



SGPU

SAN GORGONIO PASS UNIT

SARU

SANTA ANA RIVER UNIT

Ride and Learn

Saturday February 7th

Join us for a combination Gavilan Hills/ Hartford Springs Trail Ride and Equine First Aid Education featuring Dr. Paul Wan DVM Dipl. ACVS

Leaving the Hartford Springs Staging area at 10 am

Staging Area is located @

Gavilan Hills Ranch Market

22060 Gavilan Road, Perris, Ca 92570

(dirt lot at the corner of Gavilan Rd and Idaleona)

We will ride for about 1 & 1/2 hours to Sue Watkins house

18880 Country Pine Rd. Perris 92570

to enjoy lunch and live demonstration of

Equine First Aid in the Backcountry

returning to staging area after talk

Get a Burger at Sue's for \$5.00 or Pack your own Lunch.

Drinks will be provided by the Unit at Sue's.

If you would like to attend the First Aid Talk but do not want to ride join us at Sue's at 12:00.

RSVP at our Meetup Site

*Backcountry Horsemen of California
Southern California Units*

for more info call or email Rebekah @

rebekah-evs@sbcglobal.net

714-745 -0997

February 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7 - SARU Ride & Learn
8	9	10	11	12 - RSR General Meeting	13	14 - Tule Peak Ride
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Upcoming Events (Some dates may be tentative)

Feb 7- SARU Ride & Learn—See Page 5 for flyer

Feb 12- 7 pm RSR monthly meeting at the Little Red School House in Anza. Open to the public. Check for updates, meeting may be at member's house/ranch.

Feb 14- Tule Peak Ride—See Page 2 for details

Mar 12- 7 pm RSR monthly meeting at the Little Red School House in Anza. Open to the public. Check for updates, meeting may be at member's house/ranch.

Mar 13-15- Annual BCHC Rendezvous, Calaveras Camp in Angel's Camp, CA.
www.FrogTown.org and www.bchcalifornia.org/rendezvous.htm

April 19- Redshank Riders open packing clinic—52820 Elder Creek Rd, Aguanga, 92536, CA

2014 Double Diamond Award Application Format

The BCHA Volunteer Hours Committee has changed the format for submitting Double Diamond Award Nominations. These changes came about due to the large amount of participation from members across the country. The committee felt we needed to provide a means of comparing all nominations equally to be fair to all the nominators. In the past the committee has received anything from a thirty minute video to a one page written letter. Thank you all for your great entries in the past and we look forward to some great entries with your volunteer efforts from 2014.

Below is the new format. Note the April 1st Deadline for all nominations! The deadline was established so the committee members will have time to thoroughly review all the nominations before the National Directors Meeting.

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN of AMERICA Double Diamond Award Application

The Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) National Board established this special annual award in 2003. This award is presented to BCHA chapters for exceptional volunteer projects and/or educational programs completed during the previous year. The efforts eligible for recognition can include, but not limited to, trail maintenance, trail construction, trailhead construction, educational programs, and youth programs.

Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) will accept applications from any chapter/unit for a volunteer project or educational program that has been accomplished during the calendar year (Jan.1-Dec.31) immediately preceding the April National Board of Directors Meeting. All award applications shall be for a specific project or educational program, not for multiple projects or programs undertaken during the year. Multiple outings to accomplish a specific project are acceptable.

Include a detailed description of what the project entailed and how it was accomplished from start to finish. Answer the questions: who, what, where, when, why, and how. Include any pictures (a maximum of eight photos) the committee can use in making its decision. Also include any additional support letters from the agency or private parties that were worked with on this project or program. Applications must be submitted by email in Word or Adobe format with a maximum of four pages. (Digital format is preferred; however, a hard copy will be accepted if electronic options are not available to the nominator. Applications must be received by April 1st of the current year either by email to: Volunteer@backcountryhorse.com or US Mail to: BCHA Double Diamond, 64 Clayton RD. Clarkston, WA 99403. **No applications received after April 1st will be considered.**

The BCHA Volunteer Hours Committee appointed by the National Chair of BCHA will decide the winner or winners. The award will be presented at the BCHA National Board Annual Banquet. For questions, please call 970-247-3231.

Thank you for the coming application!

BCHA Volunteer Hours Committee

WELCOME to Our NEW MEMBERS

Cezanne Ryerson
Susan and Nicole Kontoff
Barbara Harris



**Just Right
Horse Dentistry**
951-514-9999
Greg Bruce



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33320 Temecula Valley Pkwy - Temecula, CA 92592

At the Little Red Schoolhouse & Anza
 ~ Thurs. February 12th ~ 7 PM
General Meeting

Aguaanga, 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.