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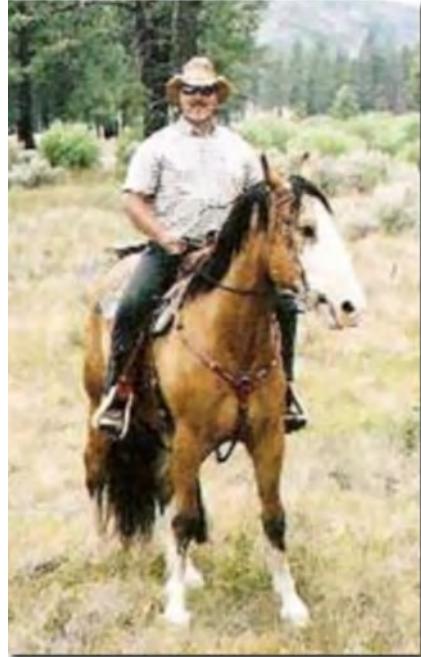
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ISSUE 3-2019**MARCH 2019****PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hello Folks

Well, we have had quite a February. With rainstorms, flooding, snow, and road closures it's been a month to remember or maybe forget. Here's hoping that March comes in like a lion, all the damage is repaired, and we get back to doing the things that we enjoy. Speaking of things that we all enjoy, the BCHC Rendezvous is coming up in March on the 29th thru the 31st. This year's Rendezvous is at Ingalls Park in Norco. There's a little something for everybody:

And a host of vendors will be selling everything you want and need.



Horse and Mule Training Clinics

Packing Seminars and Contests

Leave No Trace Classes

Cowboy Church

Dutch oven Cooking Contests

A Western Art Show

Kids Corral

BLM Mustang and Burro Adoption

Trail Trial Competition

Beer and Wine Tasting

Several Raffles

A Silent Auction

In addition, you can purchase dinner tickets for Friday and Saturday night. On Friday, there will be a concert by Western Hall of Fame Musician Dave Stamey. Campsites are available but space is limited so send in your Registration Packet today. If you would like to help at one of the venues, that would be fantastic - there will be numerous opportunities for you to volunteer. And why not invite several of your friends to come too. It's gonna be a great time!

Schedules, prices, and the Registration Packet can be found at the BCHC Website: www.bchcalifornia.org/rendezvous.htm

Hope to see you there.

Happy Trails

Charlie Cheek

Collecting Volunteer & Education Hours: Why and How

[Excerpts from https://www.bcha.org/get-involved/volunteering/hours/](https://www.bcha.org/get-involved/volunteering/hours/)

It is important to understand that the value of the volunteer service goes beyond trail work hours. It also includes time members devote to engagement in the management planning process. Other reported expenses like travel time, stock use, stock and equipment hauling, and in-kind donations add to the value of our volunteer service.

What Hours Are Needed

Even when members report their basic work hours on projects, they often fail to report the associated contributions like the travel time, mileage, and stock use. Each of these categories adds considerable value to the volunteer effort of the individual member.

The BCHA Board in conjunction with multiple land managers has asked for the following to be reported:

- All volunteer trail work done on public land
 - ◊ Included are any work or meetings held in preparation that will lead to trail work or trail preservation;
 - ◊ Any meetings with agencies where recreational trail usage or maintenance is discussed;
 - ◊ Phone calls discussing trail preservation or maintenance with managers;
 - ◊ It does not include private lands such as private timberlands unless they will eventually become public lands.
- Stock and equipment usage
- Vehicle mileage and travel time
- All LNT Education hours and preparation hours.
 - ◊ Planning and hosting clinics which provide LNT education.

How to Report Volunteer Efforts

Each chapter and State organization should appoint a Volunteer Hours Coordinator (VHC) or committee responsible for reporting the hours that members work and other expenses they incur during their service.

BCHA provides a [Microsoft Excel Workbook](#) to aid in the reporting of Volunteer efforts by the BCH chapters and States.

While using this workbook greatly facilitates compiling the national report, it doesn't matter in what format the hours are reported. *What matters is that the effort is reported.*

Chapters should complete and submit their reports to their BCH State organization. The State should compile a State report and submit it to the BCHA Volunteer Hours Committee by March 1st so a report can be presented at the National Board Meeting in April. Submit reports to the BCHA Volunteer Hour Chairman, Leean Sahagun Volunteer@backcountryHorse.com and to the Executive Administrator, Erica Fearn, efearn@bcha.org or ExecSecretary@bcha.org.

(Continued from page 2)

A few things the volunteers in each chapter need to remember:

- Travel time is the time spent getting to a project and back. All participants on the project can report this time.
- The driver should report his mileage as well. Report as stock hauling vehicle mileage if you are pulling a loaded trailer.
- Volunteers should report hours spent riding a trail in preparation for a trail project as Recon hours. These are the hours needed for the project planners to determine the resources and level of effort required to successfully undertake a project.
- Always report all pack and saddle stock use. This is a valuable contribution by volunteers. Remember that using an animal for any part of a day constitutes a Stock Day even if it is only used for a short period.
- Report the time members spend participating in planning meetings with public land agencies as well as the travel time getting to them.
- Report the time preparing and presenting educational events.

Locally, each chapter should be reporting their hours into the land managers in the Fall on the land manager's time schedule. Ideally, within BCH the hours should go to somebody identified in the state or affiliate to collect these hours, but if no one has been identified, then the National Director is ultimately responsible for getting these hours to the National Board of BCHA.

Click here for a copy of the [BCHA Guidelines for Completing the Volunteer Reporting Form](#)



www.bchcalifornia.org

BCHC has partnered with Riding Warehouse to give our members a 15% discount!



RIDING WAREHOUSE

www.ridingwarehouse.com



2019 RENDEZVOUS ~ NORCO, CA

MARCH 29 ~ 31, 2019

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN



George Ingalls Equestrian Event Center
3737 Crestview Avenue, Norco, CA, 92860

Meet Your Board Members:

Unit Ride Coordinator: *Gretchen Peckham:*

Hi folks,

My name is Gretchen Peckham & I'm the current ride coordinator for our Redshank Riders unit.

I grew up in SoCal & I'm a long-time rider having gotten my first horse at age 11. I rode trails for a few years as a kid & then switched to showing western in open, Arabian & Quarter horse shows, which I did until I was 18.

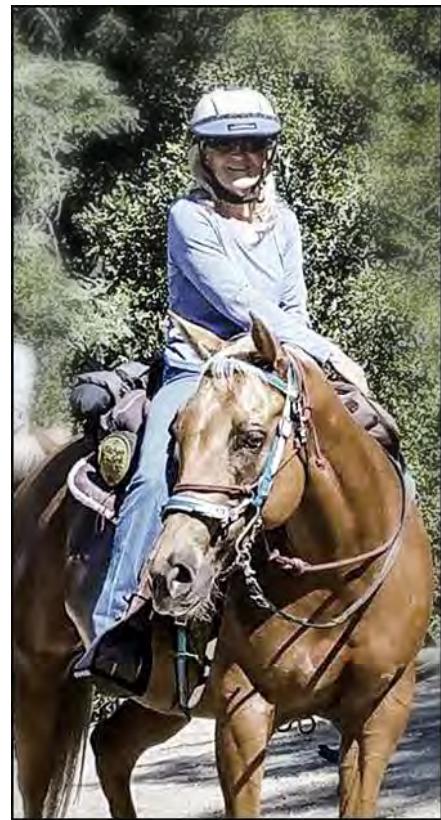
After a number of years of being horseless, my sister & I cooked up a plan to breed her two mares to a Paint stallion & 3 yrs. later I was back to showing on the Paint horse circuit as an amateur owner. I showed all over the country for about 4 yrs. until I sold my last Paint gelding.

After an extended period of being horseless, I convinced my husband, Jack, that we (I) really needed to ride again. We moved to Anza to have enough room to keep a few horses & to have the luxury of simply opening the front gate & being able to access lots of trails. The search was on to find our dream horses & I was lucky enough to be looking at the same time that Mike Lewis was selling his wonderful Minnie. She is my heart horse, although we still have differences of opinion. Jack bought his wonderful gelding, Snip, not long after that & we haven't stopped riding since! We've racked up hundreds of miles riding our two best friends.

We enjoy working on the trails in our area, bush whacking & rebuilding washed-out areas. We occasionally will have to completely reroute & build a new trail around an area that we perceive as being a little sketchy. We also enjoy sometimes helping Mike Lewis with the pack-ins that he does for the PCT & for other agencies. We have a lot of fun being outriders; we've learned a lot from Mike & have seen some beautiful country in the process. We also did several trips taking our horses camping with our friends.

We hope to do some more camping trips this year with our horses & friends & of course, keep on working on those trails.

See you out there, Gretchen



Public Land Notes

Good news on the public lands arena to report. S.47 the bill that would reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund as well as other things passed both the senate and congress with support on both sides (which is so rare in our United States today).

Here is the part of the bill that all trail users from hikers, mountain bikers to equestrians worked so hard to make sure it passed. Thank you all for writing, emailing and calling your elected representatives!!

TITLE III – CONSERVATION AUTHORIZATIONS

SEC. 3001. REAUTHORIZATION OF LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 200302 of title 54, United States Code, is amended —

(1) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “During the period ending September 30, 2018, there” and inserting “There”; and

(2) in subsection (c) (1), by striking “through September 30, 2018”.

(b) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Section 200304 of title 54, United States Code, is amended —

(1) by striking the second sentence;

(2) by striking “There” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—There”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the total amount made available to the Fund through appropriations or deposited in the Fund under section 105(a)(2)(B) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 ([43 U.S.C. 1331](#) note; [Public Law 109-432](#))—

“(1) not less than 40 percent shall be used for Federal purposes; and

“(2) not less than 40 percent shall be used to provide financial assistance to States”.

(c) PARITY FOR TERRITORIES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—Section 200305(b) of title 54, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (5).

(d) RECREATIONAL PUBLIC ACCESS.—Section 200306 of title 54, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) RECREATIONAL PUBLIC ACCESS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts made available for expenditure in any fiscal year under section 200303, there shall be made available for recreational public access projects identified on the priority list developed under paragraph (2) not less than the greater of—

“(A) an amount equal to 3 percent of those amounts; or

“(B) \$15,000,000.

“(2) PRIORITY LIST.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the head of each affected Federal agency, shall annually develop a priority list for projects that, through acquisition of land (or an interest in land), secure recreational public access to Federal land under the jurisdiction of the applicable Secretary for hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, or other outdoor recreational purposes.”

(e) ACQUISITION CONSIDERATIONS.—Section 200306 of title 54, United States Code (as amended by subsection (d)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) ACQUISITION CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining whether to acquire land (or an interest in land) under this section, the Secretary and the Secretary of Agriculture shall take into account —

“(1) the significance of the acquisition;

“(2) the urgency of the acquisition;

“(3) management efficiencies;

“(4) management cost savings;

“(5) geographic distribution;

(Continued from page 5)

"(6) threats to the integrity of the land; and
 "(7) the recreational value of the land."

SEC. 3002. CONSERVATION INCENTIVES LANDOWNER EDUCATION PROGRAM

- (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a conservation incentives landowner education program (referred to in this section as the "program").
- (b) PURPOSE OF PROGRAM.—The program shall provide information on Federal conservation programs available to landowners interested in undertaking conservation actions on the land of the landowners, including options under each conservation program available to achieve the conservation goals of the program, such as—
 - (1) fee title land acquisition;
 - (2) donation; and
 - (3) perpetual and term conservation easements or agreements.
- (c) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall ensure that the information provided under the program is made available to—
 - (1) interested landowners; and
 - (2) the public.
- (d) NOTIFICATION.—In any case in which the Secretary contacts a landowner directly about participation in a Federal conservation program, the Secretary shall, in writing—
 - (1) notify the landowner of the program; and
 - (2) make available information on the conservation program options that may be available to the landowner.

Along with the LWCF the bill included;

- land conveyances, exchanges, acquisitions, withdrawals, and transfers;
- national parks, monuments, memorials, wilderness areas, wild and scenic rivers, historic and heritage sites, and other conservation and recreation areas;
- wildlife conservation;
- helium extraction;
- small miner waivers of claim maintenance fees;
- wildland fire operations;
- the release of certain federal reversionary land interests;
- boundary adjustments;
- the Denali National Park and Preserve natural gas pipeline;
- fees for medical services in units of the National Park System;
- funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund;
- recreational activities on federal or nonfederal lands;
- a national volcano early warning and monitoring system;
- federal reclamation projects; and search-and-recovery-missions.

In addition, the bill reauthorizes the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation Program and the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program.

In California; Death Valley National Park, Joshua Tree National Park and Anza Borrego State Park will become larger with acquisitions of land. Some rivers in San Bernardino County and Riverside County will become wild and scenic and some lands acquired will become conservations lands which may make trail development on these lands difficult as stated in the bill. Alabama Hills which is close to the town of Independence will become a National Scenic Area.

There are other items included in the bill which in my view, (which is not a good one of some of our elected representatives) was just a way for some Senator or Congressmen to get their pet project funded, but overall it's a good bill and it allows us ways to fund building trails.

So if you get a chance call your local Congressman or senator and tell them thank you for passing this bill and let them know you are paying attention.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison Renck—Public Lands Chairperson



Pacific Crest Trail Ride from Highway 74 south for 6.5 miles and back

When: Tuesday, March 19, ride out at 9am

Where: Meeting location depends on the number of RSVPs. If there are few participants, we will meet at the PCT parking lot on Highway 74, one mile east of the intersection of Highways 74 and 371. The lot is large enough for several rigs. If many people RSVP, we will meet at Paradise Cafe instead, which adds one mile (flat) distance each way.

The Ride: This is the second of a series of rides on the PCT near Anza. This is an out-and-back ride on a moderately rocky trail. Shoes or boots are recommended. We will be riding 6.5 miles south on the PCT (possibly with an additional mile of flat walking to reach the PCT, if we meet at Paradise Cafe, instead of the parking area adjacent to the PCT). The turnaround point is where the PCT crosses the corner of the ride host's property. We will then break for a grilled lunch, prepared by the ride host. There will be hay and water for stock. After lunch, we return the way we came. Along the way, we will visit "Anza's Grand Canyon," as the trail passes the rim of Horse Canyon. We will stop briefly here to enjoy the view and take photos. Total ride time (including vista break at Horse Canyon and lunch break) should be around 8 hours.

Because the ride host needs a head count for lunch, RSVP is required. The number of participants will also determine the meeting location. Please RSVP via email to mary_litch@hotmail.com by March 16.

Ride Level: 3. Expect to encounter backpackers, possibly carrying a "sunbrella," which can spook stock on first encounter. The trail itself is in good condition. On hillsides, there are sometimes drop offs, but the tread is generally wide enough for safe passage. Stock and riders need to know to stay toward the inside portion of the trail when there is a drop off. This is not a good ride for a horse or rider new to trail riding, or a horse that spooks easily.

This ride is open to members of Backcountry Horsemen of California only. Non-members must join BCHC prior to participation.

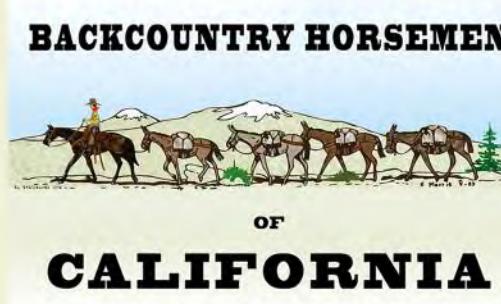
Ride Host: Mary Litch - mary_litch@hotmail.com - 714-904-6817

WILDERNESS RIDER PROGRAM

SIGN UP NOW - INTERVIEWS HELD AT RENDEZVOUS, NORCO

**Contact Thomas Firth (951) 551 - 9711
or Stacy Kuhns (909) 633 - 1705**

The Wilderness Rider program is a partnership between Backcountry Horsemen of California, the National Park Service, the USDA Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Wilderness Riders are trained stock users who have made a commitment to educating others about the value of wild lands and the importance of Gentle Use / Leave No Trace Skills.



Leave No Trace™

Center for Outdoor Ethics | LNT.org

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19—Pacific Crest Trail Ride	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Rendz Norco	30 Rendz Norco
31 Rendz Norco						

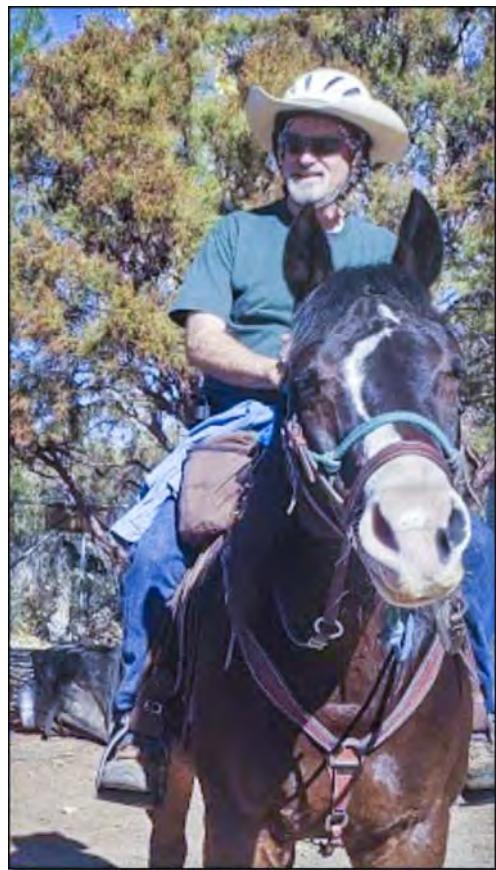
Re-Introducing your Vice President: *Jack Peckham*:

I am 56 this year, I met my wife Gretchen in the early 80's. We started dating in 1983 & got married Jan. of 1987. We are both native Californians, born & raised in the San Gabriel Valley area until we moved to Idyllwild in December 1986. Gretchen had had horses since she was 10 years old all the way through 1987.

I started working at Idyllwild Fire Protection District as a Paid Call Firefighter in 1990 and worked through the ranks to a full time Captain. I became a Paramedic in 1992.

We joined RSR (insert date). After 25 years, Gretchen got another horse in 2012. We moved from Idyllwild to Anza in January 2014. In June of 2014, I got my first horse, His name is Snip, he is a sweetheart and has taught me a lot. I have an App on my phone, www.mapmyrun.com, that I track our rides with. We rode 300 miles in 2014, 600mi in 2015 and 730 mi in 2016, 870 mi in 2017 & 820 in 2018. We have done less than 100 mi so far this year, the rain has slowed us down but we hope to get going again soon.

We both have a passion for the outdoors, we have been hiking, camping and backpacking since we were kids. We were assistant leaders in a basic mountaineer training course in the late 80's early 90's. We love maintaining trails.



Next General Meeting
Thurs. March 14, 2019 - 7:00pm
@ The Little Red Schoolhouse

Agua ngea, CA 92536
 P.O. BOX 383
 BCHC
 Redshank Riders



Star Milling Co.

Stacy Kuhns
 TERRITORY SALES MANAGER
909-633-1705
stacy@starmilling.com www.starmilling.com

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.