




2022 Board Members	Newsletter	March / April / May 2022
<p><u>PRESIDENT</u> Michael Lewis - 951-760-9255 president@redshankriders.com</p> <p><u>VICE-PRESIDENT</u> Jack Peckham - 909-226-0065 vicepresident@redshankriders.com</p> <p><u>SECRETARY</u> Cindy Hay - 760-831-9019 secretary@redshankriders.com</p> <p><u>TREASURER</u> Stacy Kuhns - 909-633-1705 treasurer@redshankriders.com</p> <p><u>WEBSITE EDITOR &amp; WEB TECH</u> Rhonda Strickland - 951-522-8757 redshank.webmaster@gmail.com</p> <p><u>EDUCATION / STATE REP</u> Stacy Kuhns - 909-633-1705 educationchair1@redshankriders.com</p> <p><u>PUBLIC LANDS</u> Hope Adams - 951-295-0408 publiclands@redshankriders.com</p> <p><u>MEMBERSHIP / HISTORIAN</u> Diana Wilstermann (760) 715 - 9772 membership@redshankriders.com</p> <p><u>ADOPT A HIGHWAY</u> Gretchen Peckham 951-763-4249 ridecoordinator@redshankriders.com</p> <p><u>RIDE COORDINATOR</u> Audrey Turpin - 951-852-1708 ridecoordinator@redshankriders.com</p> <p><u>AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE</u> Michael Lewis - 951-760-9255 agencyrep@redshankriders.com</p> <p><u>MAILING ADDRESS:</u> BCHC Redshank Riders PO Box 383 Anza, CA 92536</p>	<p><b>Presidents Message</b></p> <p>I'll be the first one to admit, I am not very good at writing articles so I apologize for the lack of monthly newsletters. So much has happened since the last newsletter; I hope I can remember it all.</p> <p>First off planning continues on the 2023 BCHC Rendezvous in Temecula next March. California Ranch Company (CRC) has been secured as the venue. Commitments are in place with many items already completed as we steam forward. Our Quinn Flats (Fobes) kiosk commitment has been meeting and are closing in on an actual build date.</p> <p>Our first pack clinic, play day is just around the corner and we are looking forward to a good time. A few of us headed out to a couple of local Forest Service campgrounds to clear dead, hazardous trees ahead of the planned Memorial Day opening. This served two purposes; it helped the FS and it gave us an opportunity to get some practice in ahead of a FS sawcer class in Redding.</p> <p>On May 14, we gathered at the Anza Lions arena for a trail course competition. This event was conceived by our own Gretchen Peckham and orchestrated by her, Jack, and Audrey Turpin.</p> <p>Coming up will be our first packing clinic play-day of the season. We hope to start preparing for the upcoming rendezvous in hopes of making a good showing in both the youth and adult divisions. Looking forward to a busy summer. Hope to see you all some time. Make sure to check our Facebook page for some of our latest activities at BCHC Redshankriders.</p> <p>Michael Lewis President – Backcountry Horsemen of California Redshankriders Unit</p>	



REDSHANK RIDERS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2022

Next Month: May 22, 2022

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Mike and Pebbles Home

**Members present:** Hope Adams, Greg Bruce, Brenda Cowan, Stacy Kuhns, Mike Lewis, Pebbles Lewis, Gail McCreight, Audrey Turpin, Shirley Willits, Annalisa V, Doug Hay & Cindy Hay (Secretary)

**Guests:** None tonight

**President opened the meeting at 7:00pm.** President Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting and to Chicken Pot Pie Casserole night! **Reports:**

**Secretary's report:** Cindy Hay

- o Minutes were sent to members by email prior to the meeting. Cindy summarized the minutes.
- o Motion to accept by Pebbles Lewis, seconded by Audrey Turpin. Approved unanimously.

**Treasurer Report:** Stacy Kuhns

- o Beginning balance: \$6118.36
- o Ending balance: \$6118.36

**Membership Report:** Diana Wilstermann (Absent) Report per Mike

- o 61 Memberships Total (-1)
- o 86 Persons (N/C)
- o 21 Family (+1)
- o 33 Individual (-1)
- o 5 Associate (N/C)
- o 0 Patron (N/C)
- o 1 Benefactor (-1)
- o 1 Mt. Whitney (N/C)

**New Members**

- o Pamela & Tyler Hansen (F) – Aguanga, CA

**Adopt a Highway Report:** Gretchen Peckham - Gretchen Peckham (Absent)

**Public Lands Report:** Hope Adams - Hope reports that it is challenging to find information regarding the national monument information. She is going through the information. Some monuments allow bikes, some do not. It depends on whose land the monument is on. She will continue to investigate.

**Education Report:** Stacy Kuhns: Opted to report later in the meeting

**Ride Coordinator:** Audrey Turpin: Please check the Facebook page for upcoming rides and events

- o May – Gamblers Choice trail challenge

**Old Business**

- A. Gamblers Choice – The flyer is done, working on obstacles & insurance per Jack.
- B. Remember that live scan is required if you work with youth. We have eight scanned members!
- C. Minor Park clean up – No information on this
- D. In-house committees: per Stacy
  - a. Trifold Brochure – the team is ready to begin.
  - b. Kiosk – Mike is making the kiosk larger than originally planned. It is being funded by the USFS, not
  - c. Main committee meeting per zoom next week.

E. Decal for the trailer

**Banner at the Lions Arena – ideas:**

- A. Trail maintenance, public service, fun rides, “social”, keep public lands open, education

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**New Business:** per Mike Lewis

Banner at the Lions Arena – ideas:

Trail maintenance, public service, fun rides, “social”, keep public lands open, education

**E. Rendezvous 2023**

- a. March 24 – 26, 2023 @ CRC (contract is signed) (can arrive on the 22<sup>nd</sup>).
- b. Planning meeting is March 23, 2022 at Stacy’s house. Lasagna and Salad. 6pm. Sponsors and committees are needed. Integrity is providing \$2500.00
- c. A letter and advertisement will be created to request sponsors.
- d. 22 units can help out.

BCHC lost 10% of its membership in the recent COVID years. It’s not because people are moving. Maybe because of a lack of a reason to go. Our unit is ok, and growing.

*Motion To Close The Meeting At 9:19pm By Alison Renck and seconded By Stacy Kuhns.*



## WELCOME NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

Pamela & Tyler Hansen  
Danny Sullivan & Daniel Martinez  
Ed & Nancy Tremblay  
Bob Henry & Family  
Hiromi Dellario

Janet Christanson  
Jim & Mary Jane Williamson  
Gary Morris & Family  
Ruth Roman & Richard Rutherford



[www.bchcalifornia.org](http://www.bchcalifornia.org)

**Attn: Members**

If you are interested in hosting a trail ride please contact our Ride Coordinator, Gretchen Peckham to discuss it.

**Email:**

[ridecoordinator@redshankriders.com](mailto:ridecoordinator@redshankriders.com)

**Ph.: 951-763-4249**



**RIDING WAREHOUSE**

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

Ask your Unit Secretary for the discount code!

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

**amazon**smile



**You shop. Amazon gives.**

**SHOP ON AMAZON >> DONATE TO BCHC**  
**An Easy, No-Cost Way to Make a Difference**

You can support Backcountry Horsemen of California every time you make a purchase. Amazon shoppers can sign up at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5 percent of the purchase price from your eligible purchases to BCHC. There is no cost to you! Sign up and designate BCHC as your charity of choice. Then anytime you wish to make a purchase, shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and know you're making a difference for BCHC. It's that easy!



## Hazard Tree Removal

By: Michael Lewis

A few weeks ago, a couple of us had the opportunity to help the Forest Service remove some hazard trees from some campgrounds ahead of their Memorial Day openings. First off, I joined some FS reps to scout out what needed to be done. We headed to the Fern Basin and Marion Mountain campgrounds to identify what needed to be done.



*Devising a plan*



*Chopping out the face.*

After that, it was time to go to work. Joined by Jack & Gretchen Peckham and Art Ineria, we headed to the campgrounds for two days of tree felling with crosscut saws and axes. For me this project served two purposes, help the FS and help me prepare for a high-level crosscut felling certification I would be attending above Redding in the Shasta-Trinity forest.



*Prepping the saw*

Our campground project involved directional felling, which means the FS decides where these trees need to end up landing, and it was up to us to be sure that happened.

Good news is all the trees ended up where intended. I want to personally thank Jack, Gretchen, and Art for joining me. I could not have done this without them.



*Pulling the misery whip.*



*Sighting the landing zone.*



*On its way.*



*Tree down.*



## The Burning Question: Why Not Burn Trash?

*By Chloe Lindahl - April 20, 2022 - Submitted by Stacy Kuhns from*

### **Garbage In, Toxins Out**

Whether you are in your backyard or in the backcountry, burning trash in your fire has negative impacts on human, animal and plant health alike. Garbage has changed over the years and today's household trash contains a plethora of plastics and paper treated chemicals, coatings, and inks. Trash items like plastics, rubber, foam, metals, synthetic materials, and batteries contain hazardous chemicals as well. When burnt, these chemicals are released into the air and then breathed in by those in close proximity. The chemicals can also be absorbed by your skin in some cases and even absorbed by the food you might be cooking over that fire. Below are three vital reasons we do not recommend burning trash in your backyard fire pit, at the nearby park's barbecue grill, or in your campsite's fire ring.

#### **1) Human Impacts**

As mentioned above, burning trash produces air pollution with toxic chemicals that are known to be carcinogenic, or cancer-causing. Chemicals like benzene, styrene, toluene, furan, and many others are released by burning trash and can be easily inhaled by those around the campfire. Additionally, the next visitors to the park barbecue grill or campsite are welcomed by unsightly garbage and food scraps they're then forced to deal with.

#### **2) Wildlife Impacts**

Partially burnt trash and food scraps that are left in fire pits attract animals and eventually lead to negative interactions between humans and those animals. Many of these interactions do not end well for the animals as park employees may be forced to deal with the wildlife that has stumbled too close to human habitats despite it often being humans at fault in the first place. Additionally, the lead left behind in campfire ash from burning single-use plastics, packaging, and snack wrappers is not only toxic to the humans that build a fire there the next time but is also extremely toxic to the animals that scavenge from piles of ash.

#### **3) Plant and Soil Impacts**

Ash that remains from burnt trash in barbecue grills and campfire pits contains concentrated amounts of toxic materials that can blow away or seep into the soil. This has the potential to impact plants in the area and can even affect our groundwater.

In order to prevent these negative impacts on people, wildlife, and plants please practice Leave No Trace by packing out all trash and food scraps. This includes fruit cores and peels, paper towels, cardboard, and any other materials or foods that you brought with you. Everything should be packed out and disposed of properly at the completion of your outing or trip. These small actions allow nature to stay beautiful for everyone who wants to experience it and for the wildlife that call it home.

**Let's protect and enjoy our natural world together**

## FOXTAILS CAN BE HARMFUL FOR OUR ANIMALS!!

Shared from an article at [ExtremeDogFence.com](http://ExtremeDogFence.com) - submitted by Rhonda Strickland

What dog doesn't enjoy running through a field of grass? However, you should be aware that there are some wild grasses that are dangerous for your animals. Foxtail grass is one of these. They have sharp seeds that can be extremely detrimental for dogs. They are designed to burrow into the ground with seed. However, they can also get into an animal's skin where they can cause serious injury, infection and even death.

The torpedo-shaped awns found on foxtails are similar to bullets, as they can penetrate any part of an animal's body. These often can get lodged in a dog's nose, ears, underbelly, rear end and paws. Animals with long hair are particularly at risk, as the barbs get attached to the long fur and they are difficult to locate.

I had an awful experience more than once from these nasty things and the one that stands out was when I was a teen and boarded my horse at a stable in Artesia. My Welsh pony stopped eating and we could not figure out why. I lifted his top lip to look at his teeth and there were 2 rows of foxtails embedded into his gums between his upper lip & teeth. Apparently the hay that we got for him was full of foxtails. It was terrible! I cleaned them out and had a vet take a look and luckily I had found them before there was an infection. I've had a couple of dogs to the vet because of these yucky things. Needless to say, I regularly would check ALL my animals if I thought they were exposed to areas with foxtails.

Horses that eat hay containing foxtails can develop significant ulceration of the mouth, tongue, or lips. These ulcers may appear relatively benign, but they are often quite painful. Signs of foxtail ulceration include an odor from the mouth, difficulty chewing, excessive salivation, and frothing of the mouth.

When a foxtail gets in a dog's ear, it can pierce the eardrum. If it gets in a paw, it can cut it and move into the limb itself. If it gets into the nose and mouth, they can make their way towards the lungs. The awns contain bacteria which may cause an infection and abscesses to form. This is why in order to remove a foxtail, there almost always needs to be an anesthetic and surgery performed by a veterinarian.

### Symptoms of a foxtail wound include:

- A foxtail may be in the nose if he sneezes excessively.
- A lump on the skin that hurts them when you touch it
- A foxtail awn may be in the ear if he shakes his head violently.
- If your dog is pawing at their eye they may have a foxtail awn in it.
- A puss discharge from an area on the skin
- A visible abscess
- A bacterial infection

The best way to protect your dog is to stay out of areas that may contain foxtails. It is a good idea to familiarize yourself with what it looks like. If you have them in your yard, mow them and then rake and throw away the little spikes. If you have taken your dog to a place where there is foxtail grass, be sure to thoroughly check the dog for foxtail needles. Check well between the toes, around the ears, eyes, nose and underbelly.



# GAMBLER'S CHOICE TRAIL CHALLENGE & FUN DAY

At Lion's Club Arena  
Anza

**SATURDAY, MAY 14TH, 2022**

This Redshank Riders event was fun for everyone!! With a day of Trail challenges & the Lions Club of Anza cooking hamburgers, hot dogs along with a bake sale benefiting our Community Hall. Everyone was welcomed to participate or just have a good time eating, drinking and watching.



Photos shared by Mike Lewis





# 34<sup>th</sup> Annual BCHC RENDEZVOUS

Keeping trails open for over 35 years!



## ***SAVE THE DATE!***

**March 24, 25, 26<sup>th</sup>  
2023**

**at the California Ranch  
Company Temecula, CA**

- U *Horse and Mule Training Clinicians*
- U *Stock Packing Seminars*
- U *Youth Classes*
- U *Gentle Use/ Leave No Trace Classes*
- U *Trail Trials*
- U *Scores of Vendors* [stacykuhns@aol.com to book your space]
- U U *Western Art Show*
- U *Dutch Oven Cook-off*
- U *Beer & Wine tasting*
- U *Cowboy Church*
- U *Raffles and Auction*
- U **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**RENEWING OUR PARTNERSHIPS TO SAVE OUR  
TRAILS**

[bchcalifornia.org/rendezvous](http://bchcalifornia.org/rendezvous)



## RSR MEMBERSHIP MEETING

~

### PACKING PLAY DAY & POTLUCK

MAY 22, 2022

HELD AT MIKE  
& PEBBLES HOME



Great day today.  
Membership meeting,  
packing clinic, Dutch  
oven potluck. Even  
some friendly  
packing competition.



continued on next page





Photos shared by  
Tracy Bean  
&  
Mike Lewis



"Thanks all it was  
a great day"  
Tracy Bean



## REDSHANK RIDERS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

May 22, 2022

Next Month: June 11, 2022

11:08 am – 12:00 noon

Mike and Pebbles Home

**Members present:** Hope Adams, Cassidy Bean, Tracy Bean, Greg Bruce, Dixie, Brenda Cowan, Darrell Cowan, Corinne Dale, Danny Ferguson, Susan Ferguson, Rosie Grindle, Doug Hay, Bob Henry, Mike Lewis, Pebbles Lewis, Daniel Mar nez, Jack Peckham, Gretchen Peckham, Helen Steenman, Audrey Turpin, Valerie Young, Annalisa V, Cindy Hay (Secretary)

**Guests:** Bill Meier, Ed T.

**President opened the meeting at 11:08am.** President Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting and to Chicken Pot Pie Casserole night!

### **Reports:**

**Secretary's report:** Cindy Hay

- Minutes draft sent to members by email prior to the meeting. Cindy summarized the minutes.
- Motion to accept minutes by Pebbles Lewis, seconded by Shirley Willits. Approved unanimously.

**Treasures Report:** Stacy Kuhns (absent) Report per Mike

- Beginning balance: \$5408.56
- Ending balance: \$5177.11

**Membership Report:** Diana Wilstermann (Absent) Report per Mike

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- Mike reports that there is no report, but we have seen our membership gradually increase.

**Adopt a Highway Report:** Gretchen Peckham

- The highway still looks good (thanks Caltrans!), but we are thinking about dates.

**Public Lands Report:** Hope Adams -

- Hope reports that the nearby-proposed national monument has seemed to disappear.

**Educational Report:** Stacy Kuhns: Absent

**Ride Coordinator:** Audrey Turpin: Please check the Facebook page for upcoming rides and events

- Nothing scheduled at this time

**Old Business**

A. Gamblers Choice – Gamblers Choice – Gretchen

1. It was a great day, lots of fun. Due to the nature of the event, it did run long.
2. There were many requests that it be a regular event.
3. The Lions sold burgers and hotdogs.
4. The bake sale for the Community Center was successful.

B. Remember that live scan is required if you work with youth.

C. Kiosk at Quinn Flats (Fobes) report per Mike

- a. Had a meeting recently.
- b. Andy will fund, so it's time and energy only.
- c. The project will take a few years.

d. Volunteer service agreement with BLM, Palm Springs/S. Coast Field Office – per Mike, still working on it.

Nothing back from Chris with the BLM.

Volunteer service agreement with the Forest Service/SBNF – per Mike

Andy says that the whole SBNF is included. When we participate, we are considered employees and just have to sign in.

Mike wrote the agreement. It is renewable in one year.

There is a new Ranger, who is a real ranger!

Decal for the trailer

Work in progress.

Banner at the Lions Arena

The banner is up and it looks good!

**New Business** per Mike Lewis

A. Community Hall Open House is June 11 from 4 – 7 pm

- a. The RSR will have a table.
- b. Membership drive per Hope

Hope made a motion:

- A. We will have a competition for a membership drive, back dated to January 1, 2022; the winner will receive a prize made by Mike Lewis. A family membership counts as two. Danny F. seconded. Approved unanimously.
- B. Packing per Mike, nothing at this time.
- C. Community Center July 1, 2022 fundraiser per Pebbles
  - a. Dinner, Dance, Steer BBQ by Stoney.
  - b. Servers are needed.

**Other:**

A. July 4<sup>th</sup> parade – none this year.

B. Some people are still not getting emails about meetings and events. Mike will talk to Rhonda. Please check your junk mail.

C. Next meeting – June 11, Dutch oven breakfast at 0900, LNT Presentation at Stacy's house.

Motion To Close The Meeting At 12:00 noon By Greg Bruce and seconded By Pebbles Lewis.



BCHC – Redshank Riders

P.O. BOX 383

Aguanga, CA 92536

June membership meeting  
@ Stacy's Home on Sat. 6/11  
Dutch oven, LNT presentation

[www.RedshankRiders.com](http://www.RedshankRiders.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.