





2022 Board Members	Newsletter	Summer / Fall 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>NL EDITOR & 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> 	<h2 data-bbox="462 514 771 556">Presidents Message</h2> <p data-bbox="462 577 974 766">It has been brought to my attention that many of you have a hard time following my acronyms and project locations. In this message, I will attempt to explain some of it. To start with, acronyms:</p> <p data-bbox="462 787 974 861"><u>Here are agencies and areas we work and ride in.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="462 882 738 913"><u>FS</u> Forest Service <li data-bbox="462 934 974 1008"><u>SBNF</u> San Bernardino National Forest - Our local forest in its entirety <li data-bbox="462 1029 974 1176"><u>SJRD</u> San Jacinto Ranger District -Each forest is broken up into smaller districts. This is our local district based out of a station in Idyllwild. It covers the mountains from I-10 to Pinon. <li data-bbox="462 1197 1502 1270"><u>CNF</u> Cleveland National Forest - Located to the West and South of Anza Valley. <li data-bbox="462 1291 1502 1438"><u>CSP</u> California State Parks - We often work with what is known as the California State Parks statewide trail crew. As the name implies, they work statewide and they are not affiliated with any particular park but in fact do large projects in all of California's State Parks. <li data-bbox="462 1459 1323 1501"><u>NP</u> National Parks. Our closest NP is Joshua Tree National Park. <li data-bbox="462 1522 1502 1669"><u>BLM</u> Bureau of Land Management. The Bureau of Land Management's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. We often refer to BLM as the Forest Service without trees. <p data-bbox="462 1743 958 1774"><u>The following are crews we work with:</u></p> <li data-bbox="462 1795 1502 1911"><u>CCC</u> California Conservation Corps. The California Conservation Corps offers a unique and challenging, paid experience for young adults from across the state. They often work in partnership with California State Parks.	

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- ACE** American Conservation Experience. Members serve in professionally supervised teams as they explore future outdoor careers, learn practical field skills, and develop confidence as emerging leaders in the field of conservation. Based in Flagstaff Arizona.
- UCC** Urban Conservation Corps. The Southern California Mountains Foundation Urban Conservation Corps offers young men and women the chance to better their lives. Corps Members serve in the Southern California Mountains and become employable citizens through hard work in environmental conservation. Meaningful projects build valuable workforce skills that increase job readiness.
- SCA** Student Conservation Association. SCA's mission is to build the next generation of conservation leaders and inspire lifelong stewardship of the environment and communities by engaging young people in hands-on service to the land. Our members protect and restore national parks, marine sanctuaries, cultural landmarks and community green spaces in all 50 states.
- PCTA** Pacific Crest Trail Association. The mission of the Pacific Crest Trail Association is to protect, preserve and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) as a world-class experience for hikers and equestrians, and for all the values provided by wild and scenic lands. The PCT reaches for the Mexican to Canadian border. It is approximately 2650 miles long and runs through Anza Valley and our local mountains.

Another organization we work with is the **Friends of the Desert Mountains**. Located in Palm Desert, the Friends is a 501-c3 dedicated to preserving land, to supporting education, with conservation and research in the Coachella Valley. They act as the support organization for the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument. A number of members of our unit provide pack support for their invasive plant abatement projects.

These are just a few that I can think of. I will try to make a map of the places we ride and work. I want everyone to remember that elections are coming up in December. All positions are open for nominations. We are looking for some fresh faces on the board so please consider stepping up.

Michael Lewis

President – Backcountry Horsemen of California

Redshankriders Unit



REDSHANK RIDERS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

September 11, 2022 Next Month: October 13

2:00 pm – 2:28 pm

Tracy and Cassidy's Home

Members present: Hope Adams, Cassidy Bean, Tracy Bean, Greg Bruce, Danny Ferguson, Susan Ferguson, Tina Frey, Doug Frey, Cindy Hay, Doug Hay, Bob Henry, Art Inserra, Stacy Kuhns, Mike Lewis, Pebbles Lewis, Jack Peckham, Gretchen Peckham, Linda Ruggieri and Trisha Soloranzo, Wilstermann

Guests: Justin Hood, Heather LaBathe, Carol Kelly, Daniel Martinez

President opened the meeting at 2:00pm. President Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked participants for the packing practice, and thanked Tracy and Cassidy for the BBQ!

Reports:

Secretary's report: Cindy Hay briefly reported on the August minutes

- o August minutes sent to members by email prior to the meeting.
- o Motion to accept minutes as corrected by Stacy Kuhns, seconded by Pebbles Lewis.
- o Approved unanimously.

Treasures Report: Stacy Kuhns

- o Beginning balance: \$6826.40
- o Ending balance: \$6693.10

Membership Report: Diana Wilstermann (absent)
Report per Mike

- o 65 Memberships Total
- o 94 Persons (N/C)
- o 26 Family
- o 30 Individual
- o 5 Associate
- o 0 Patron (N/C)
- o 2 Benefactor
- o 1 Mt. Whitney N/C)
- o 1 Youth

Adopt a Highway Report: Gretchen Peckham

- o It's starting to cool down, and is overgrown. Hoping that Cal-Trans will mow it.

Public Lands Report: Hope Adams - No report

Education Report: Stacy Kuhns:

- o No new updates on the kiosk.

- o Three people on the trifold committee trying to coordinate dates to meet.

Ride Coordinator: Audrey Turpin: (absent) - No Report

Youth Engagement Committee: Cindy

- o Cindy presented some background work she has done, including identifying the team. We need a youth chair, which the youth will elect. We will have to have a meeting with the youth group when it cools down. Also, briefly identified the BCHC Youth Activities Policies, the Objectives and Purpose of the BCHC, the Purpose of the Redshank Riders, and the Goals and Objectives of the youth group.

Old Business

- A. Live scan – If you wish to work with Youth, you must have completed (and passed) the live scan.
- B. Anza Trail Town – No report (Allison absent).
- C. Volunteer service agreement – no change at this time.
- D. Rendezvous 2023
 - a) Arrangements are progressing.
 - b) Talking about a BBQ cook-off
- E. Tripp flats is on hold
- F. National Public Lands day reminder for September 24

New Business: per Mike Lewis

- A. Trails & Greenways Conference – in Palm Springs, the weekend after Rendezvous.
- B. PCTA Trail Skills School/College is October 14-16. Will be at Ribbonwood. It is free, via PCTA.org.
- C. Tule Peak Kiosk – the graphics on the sunny side are fading. May epoxy the surface, but it needs to be redone. Plan to get estimates. Next meeting - Audrey's house (Brenda is the backup)
Year End Party - December 17 at the Community Hall.

*Motion To Close The Meeting At
2:28 pm By Jack Peckham and
seconded by Stacy Kuhns.*



REDSHANK RIDERS



Our Monthly meeting will be on Thursday,
Nov 17, 2022 at 6PM

Hosted by Stacy Kuhns

42405 Indian Hill Trail Aguanga in
LRE

It's a Potluck - Pebbles is making a
casserole for our main course

RSVP by email or text what you are
bringing.

stacykuhns@aol.com

909-633-1705

Bring your chairs and your best side
dish!



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

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

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 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 and know you're
making a difference for BCHC. It's that easy!

Trails Skills College Summer 2022

Article & Pictures Submitted by Michael Lewis

A few weeks ago, PCTA held its Trails Skills College at Ribbonwood. This was the first multi day event here in S. California in a few years. Classes included Crew Leadership, Basic Trail Maintenance, Wilderness First Aid, Field Tool Maintenance, and Crosscut Saw training and certification.

We had a great turnout by members of our unit. It included Stacy Kuhns, Jack Peckham, Gretchen Peckham, Hope Adams, Greg Bruce, and myself. Stacy, Gretchen, Hope, and Greg attended the Basic Trail Maintenance class while Jack and I ran the Crosscut class.

It was a lot of fun despite the rain and hail Saturday afternoon. We were able to connect with old friends as well as make new ones. I have included a few pictures from the saw training. Looking forward to next year's event.



Our Basic
Trail
Maintenance
Class
&
Crosscut
Class was
Well
Attended!





Leave No Trace Principles Review - *Submitted by Stacy Kuhns from*

PRINCIPLE 1: Plan ahead and Prepare from LNT

Adequate trip planning and preparation helps backcountry travelers accomplish trip goals safely and enjoyably, while simultaneously minimizing damage to the land. Poor planning often results in miserable campers and damage to natural and cultural resources. Rangers often tell stories of campers they have encountered who, because of poor planning and unexpected conditions, degrade backcountry resources and put themselves at risk.

Why Is Trip Planning Important?

- It helps ensure the safety of groups and individuals.
- It prepares you to Leave No Trace and minimizes resource damage.
- It contributes to accomplishing trip goals safely and enjoyably.
- It increases self-confidence and opportunities for learning more about nature.

Seven Elements to Consider When Planning a Trip

- Identify and record the goals (expectations) of your trip.
- Identify the skill and ability of trip participants.
- Gain knowledge of the area you plan to visit from land managers, maps, and literature.
- Choose equipment and clothing for comfort, safety, and Leave No Trace qualities.
- Plan trip activities to match your goals, skills, and abilities.
- Evaluate your trip upon return note changes you will make next time.

Other Elements to Consider

- Weather
- Terrain
- Regulations/restrictions
- Private land boundaries
- Average hiking speed of group and anticipated food consumption (leftovers create waste which leaves a trace!)
- Group size (does it meet regulations, trip purpose and Leave No Trace criteria?)

Planning for one-pot meals and light weight snacks requires a minimum of packing and preparation time, lightens loads and decreases garbage. One-pot meals require minimal cooking utensils and eliminate the need for a campfire. Two backpack stoves can be used to cook all meals for large groups if you have two large pots (one large pot can be balanced on two stoves when quick heating is desired). Remember, a stove Leaves No Trace.

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Most food should be removed from its commercial packing and placed in sealable bags before packing your backpacks. Sealable bags secure food and reduce bulk and garbage. Empty bags can be placed inside each other and packed out for reuse at home. This method can reduce the amount of garbage your group must pack out at the end of the trip and eliminate the undesirable need of stashing or burying unwanted trash.

Examples of Poor Trip Planning

A group that is inexperienced or unfamiliar with the geography of an area may put people at risk by traveling through areas susceptible to flash floods or along ridge tops vulnerable to lightning activity. Groups traveling arid lands often fail to carry adequate water or a way of purifying water from natural sources. Checking with local land managers and studying maps and weather conditions can contribute to a low-risk existence.

A poorly prepared group may plan to cook meals over a campfire only to discover upon arrival at their destination that a fire ban is in effect or that firewood is in scarce supply. Such groups often build a fire anyway breaking the law or impacting the land simply because they have not planned for alternatives. Fire bans and scarce wood supplies are signs that an area is experiencing the cumulative effects of heavy recreation use.

A group that has failed to develop good travel plans may be unable to travel as fast as expected. The terrain may be too steep or the trails too rugged. These groups often resort to setting up camp late at night, sometimes in an unsafe location. Poor campsite selection usually leads to unnecessary resource damage. In addition, the group may never even reach their planned destination.



Couple pics from Thursday's RSR general meeting. Thanks for hosting Turpin's!

RSR General Meeting on October 15 - photos shared on FB by Stacy



Leave No Trace Principle #4 LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND – Article submitted by Stacy Kuhns

Allow others a sense of discovery by leaving rocks, plants, archaeological artifacts and other objects of interest as you find them.

Minimize Site Alterations

Leave areas as you found them. Do not dig trenches for tents or construct lean-tos, tables, chairs or other rudimentary improvements. If you clear an area of surface rocks, twigs or pinecones replace these items before leaving. For high-impact sites, it is appropriate to clean up the site and dismantle inappropriate user-built facilities, such as multiple fire rings and constructed seats or tables. Consider the idea that good campsites are found and not made.



In many locations, properly located and legally constructed facilities, such as a single fire ring, should be left in place. Dismantling them will cause additional impact because they will be rebuilt with new rocks and thus affect a new area. Learn to evaluate all situations you find.

Avoid Damaging Live Trees and Plants

Avoid hammering nails into trees for hanging things, hacking at them with hatchets and saws, or tying tent guy lines to trunks—thus girdling the tree. Carving initials into trees is unacceptable. The cutting of boughs for use as sleeping pads creates minimal benefit and maximum impact. Sleeping pads are available at stores catering to campers.



Picking a few flowers does not seem like it would have any great impact and, if only a few flowers were picked, it wouldn't. However, if every visitor thought, *"I'll just take a few,"* a much more significant impact might result. Take a picture or sketch the flower instead of picking it. Experienced campers may enjoy an occasional edible plant, but they are careful not to deplete the surviving vegetation or disturb plants that are rare or are slow to reproduce.



Leave Natural Objects and Cultural Artifacts

Natural objects of beauty or interest such as antlers, petrified wood or colored rocks add to the mood of the backcountry and should be left so others can experience a sense of discovery. In national parks and many other protected places, it is illegal to remove natural objects.

The same ethic is applicable to cultural artifacts found on public lands. Cultural artifacts are protected by the Archaeological Resources Protection Act. It is illegal to remove or disturb archeological sites, historic sites or artifacts such as pottery sherds, arrowheads, structures and even antique bottles found on public lands.



34th Annual

BCHC RENDEZVOUS

Keeping trails open for over 35 years!



SAVE THE DATE!

**March 24, 25, 26th
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



BCHC — Redshank Riders
P.O. BOX 383
Aguanga, CA 92536

November membership meeting
@ Stacy's Home on Thurs. 11/17
See page 4 for details.

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.