

REDSHANK RIDERS



An Affiliate of Backcountry Horsemen of California

www.RedshankRiders.com

A group of dedicated men and women working to preserve the historic use of trails with recreational pack and saddle stock.

2009 Officers

Issue 01

JANUARY 2009

PRESIDENT

Pete Spencer

(760) 782-3747

muleman2@wildblue.net

VICE-PRESIDENT

Audrey Turpin

(951) 852-1708

upacreekranch@netzero.net

SECRETARY

Paula Bellisi

jbellisi@mtpalomar.net

TREASURER

Stacy Kuhns

(909) 633-1705

Stacykuhns@aol.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR & WEBMASTER

Rhonda Strickland

(951) 951-522-8757

editor@redshankriders.com

webmaster@redshankriders.com

NEWSLETTER CO-EDITOR

Stacy Kuhns

EDUCATION CHAIR

Alison Renck

(951) 763-0374

ali9591@aol.com

PUBLIC LANDS/STATE REP

Pete Spencer

(760) 782-3747

muleman2@wildblue.net

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Carol Schmuhl

(951) 767-1061

lfeedemandleadem@aol.com

RIDE COORDINATOR

TEAM EFFORT

HISTORIAN

Carol Schmuhl

(951) 767-1061

lfeedemandleadem@aol.com

TRAIL MAINTENANCE & DEVELOPMENT

Ron & Debbie Skinner

(951) 551-3879

Debbie.Skinner@pawsnclaws.us

Message from the President

Hello Redshank Riders,

As 2009 is now upon us, it is time to look once again to our mission statement. Redshank Riders was founded as a service organization. Our stated purpose is to keep trails open for pack and saddle stock. In order to do that requires a three pronged approach. First and foremost we do trail maintenance and provide education in Gentle Use for all Trail users. This establishes our credibility when we do the third aspect, which is to request change in the policy of Public agencies, through our Public Lands efforts.

Last year the board and voting membership resolved to restore the California Riding and Hiking trail through Riverside Co. This will require effort to convince the USFS and the county that we are serious. I will need help on this. We will propose a new trailhead on Burnt Valley Rd. to the Forest Service. Since the CRHT runs through a large section of the Anza area we will have a few work parties there. Please volunteer for some time to work on trails. We have fun and the work is not to strenuous. I've appointed Laurence Peabody to the service chair position. When he calls you and requests a bit of your time please say yes and make some time in your busy schedule to help out. If you don't, who will? A calendar will be forthcoming soon to verify dates of our events. We will have the usual events, Trail trials, Turkey Treasure Hunt and monthly Rides to whatever level you the members are willing to step forward and volunteer to help out.

We need to see some new faces in the organization and execution of these events. Pretty much the same people have been carrying this Unit for the Majority of its existence. Times Change, Things change and so must we. Please help us make our lives better by contributing a couple days in the next year to help the Redshank Riders grow and flourish. We have the same number of members as many of the other Units. If you look at the State Newsletter or the BCHA newsletter which we all receive, you will notice how much work some of them do. Let's get busy. I look forward to seeing those of you who I know and meeting those I don't.

Please put Rendezvous on your schedule in March. Also be aware that we have the best weather for trail work from now until May. After that it gets to hot unless we work up around Mt San Jacinto. There is usually packing to be done for the USFS in the summer. Tom Firth has been doing this for some years and would probably welcome some help. We also have a few other packers if you're interested in learning to pack stock.

President Pete Spencer



REDSHANK RIDERS UNIT GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING.

Unit Minutes For Monthly Meeting
December 7, 2008
Carol Schmuhl's
Meeting called to order at 1:45 pm
by Stacy Kuhns, President

Roll Call

Board Members in Attendance

President: Stacy Kuhns	Vice President: Audrey Turpin
Treasurer: Paulette Johnson	Secretary: Pauline Costi
Pub. Lands: Pete Spencer	Education: Allison Renck
Membership / Historian: Carol Schmuhl	

Members in attendance

Gail McGreight	Shirley Willits
Tim Turpin	Paula Bellisi
Rhonda Strickland	Tom & Cathy Firth
Sherri Rondeau	Kathy Burleson
Kathryn Springer	

REPORTS:

President- Stacy

Vice President- Audrey

Secretary: Pauline Costi: Minutes accepted as published in newsletter.

First: Carol Schmuhl Second: Pete Spencer

Treasurer: Paulette Johnson: Information can be obtained at any membership meeting.

Membership: No new members since Treasure Hunt. Pete Spencer won membership jacket

Trail Development & Maintenance : Not present - No report

Adopt a Highway : Position currently open

Public Lands: Pete Spencer Wants Unit to put up two gates on Tule Peak property. Suggested that Burnt Valley be used as trailhead by Forest Service. Carol wants sign posted re: prosecution for illegal dumping in that area. Person reporting trash situation thanked our Unit for clean-up.

Education - Allison Renck - Anza Aguanga Trails/Tule Peak - Talked to Ken Graff re: trail issues, also discussing with San Diego and San Bernardino Counties.

Newsletter/Website - Rhonda Strickland - Positive feedback re: newsletter and website. Stacy to recommend Rhonda for State award.

Historian - Carol Schmuhl - History book up to date, requested pictures from Pete of CRHT work party.

Old Business - None

New Business - Pete Spencer and Lawrence Peabody have recently formed the CRHT Association (modeled after the PCT Association). Stacy suggested Burnt Valley work party article be sent to local and State papers. Unit and BCHC by-laws discussed. Dr. Dennison has offered his home in Temecula as meeting place for 2009. ***Election of new board as follows:***

President: Pete Spencer - 1st Carol, 2nd Shirley

Vice-President: Audrey Turpin - 1st Stacy, 2nd Allison

Secretary: Paula Bellisi - 1st Tim, 2nd Audrey

Treasurer: Stacy Kuhns - 1st Carol, 2nd Cathy

Public Lands: Committee - Pete Spencer, Allison Renck, Sherri Rondeau 1st Pauline, 2nd Shirley

Education: Allison Renck - 1st Pete, 2nd Cathy

Historian/Membership: Carol Schmuhl Slate of Officers approved by unanimous vote. Carol Schmuhl won \$25 work party drawing.

Meeting adjourned at approx 2:40 pm



SAN JACINTO MOUNTAINS CENTENIAL SURVEY

Submitted by Thomas Firth

In May of 1908, Joseph Grinnell and Harry Swarth, sponsored by the University of Southern California led an expedition into the San Jacinto Mountains of Riverside County to study its biology. There, they would stay, traveling the area until September studying the flora and fauna of this unique mountain range.

Traveling throughout the area, from the valley floor of the desert to the mountains' summit, the team collected mammals, plants, insects and birds, taking copious notes and photographs, and ultimately publishing their results (Grinnell and Swarth 1913). This expedition is one of the cornerstones of understanding for southern California's biology and because this group did such a thorough job, it is considered the benchmark. This was also the only intensive study done of the area, thus, the expedition of 1908 stands as a unique benchmark, giving us the longest historic perspective possible on how the wildlife of southern California is responding to environmental change.

One hundred years later, Phillip Unitt from the San Diego Natural History Museum led a similar expedition into the San Jacinto Mountains in an effort to replicate Grinnell's 1908 effort and thereby establish a comparison. As Grinnell himself wrote concerning the value of his work: "This value will not, however, be realized until the lapse of many years, possibly a century, assuming that our material is safely preserved. And this is that the student of the future will have access to the original record of faunal conditions in California and the West, wherever we now work."

On November 16th, 2008, in conjunction with the USFS, my wife, Cathy, and I were honored to be asked to help with our animals to pack this historic expedition into one of the original 1908 camp sites located in a remote area of Palm Canyon called Little Paradise. The eight biologists, each specializing in a different area of expertise were loaded for bear with traps, cameras, specimen containers and myriad of other scientific equipment they would need for their week-long stay in the canyon.

We were able to guide the expedition into the canyon and on to Little Paradise and managed to get all their equipment in safe and sound. It was a fun and interesting pack trip into an area seldom visited. This canyon has its own unique beauty and I highly recommend the trip.

We returned on Saturday, November 22nd to pack the group back out and they were obviously looking forward to getting back to civilization and a hot shower. This was a great adventure with a terrific group of people. and after the snow melts on San Jacinto mountain, probably July, we are looking forward to packing this same group and their gear up to Taquitz Meadow and then a week later on up to Round Valley to complete their expedition.



2008 December Potluck Meeting & Party

From L to R: Front: Paulette Johnson, Kathy Bureson. 2nd row: Carol Schmuhl, Gail McCreight, Shirley Willits, Paula Bellisi, Kathryn Springer, Stacy Kuhns, Cathy Haun, Tom Firth, Allison Renck, Pete Spencer. Back: Sherri Rondeau, Audrey & Tim Turpin.

The Warmth Of A Horse

When your day seems out of balance and so many things go wrong ...
 When people fight around you and the clock drags on so long ...
 When some folks act like children and fill you with remorse ...
 Go out into your pasture and wrap your arms around your horse.

His gentle breath enfolds you as he watches with those eyes ...
 He may not have a PhD but he is oh so wise!

His head rests on your shoulder you hug him good and tight ...
 He puts your world in balance and makes it seem all right.

Your tears will soon stop flowing, the tension will be eased ...
 The nonsense has been lifted. You are quiet and at peace.

So when you need some balance from the stresses in your day ...
 The therapy you really need is out there eating hay!

[author unknown]

Submitted by Cathy Haun

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

membership@bchcalifornia.net – (866) 748-2033

MAIL TO: Backcountry Horsemen of California
PO Box 1610
Oakdale, CA 95361-1610**PARENT Unit Affiliation: (Select and CIRCLE ONE Unit as your Primary Unit Affiliation)**

Antelope Valley	Kern River Valley	Mojave River	Redwood	Sequoia
Caballeros del Sol	Kern Sierra	Mother Lode	San Diego	Shasta Trinity
Eastern Sierra	Lake-Mendo	North Bay	San Gorgonio Pass	Sierra Freepackers
High Country	Los Padres	Ohlone Riders	San Joaquin Sierra	Sutter Buttes
High Sierra	Mid Valley	Redshank Riders	Santa Ana River	Top of the State

DCTR (your Membership Number): _____ (For new memberships, will be determined by Membership Coordinator)

MEMBER'S NAME—No Business Names; Print Clearly

SPOUSE / Co-MEMBER'S NAME—MUST SHARE SAME ADDRESS

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code (full 9 digits, if known) _____

() _____
Area Code Phone

Total Enclosed: \$ _____ Check No.: _____

Parent Unit Membership Types: (CIRCLE ONE)**Individual \$40.00* Family \$50.00* Benefactor \$100.00 Patron \$250.00 Mt Whitney \$500.00**

* = BCHC shares portion of dues with Backcountry Horsemen of America.

Associate Memberships: AN ADDITIONAL \$15.00 PER UNIT IS ADDED TO YOUR PARENT UNIT DUES.
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP UNIT AFFILIATIONS **MAY NOT** BE FOR THE SAME UNIT AS YOUR PARENT UNIT.Associate Membership for: _____ \$15.00/unit
Unit Name (from above list)Associate Membership for: _____ \$15.00/unit
Unit Name (from above list)

Please write additional choices on back.

Please clip form along dashed line.

RIDE FLYERS AT OUR WEBSITE:

If anyone wants to download a flyer for an upcoming Redshank Rider ride you can find it on our website at:

www.RedshankRiders.com/rideflyers.html

There is a link at site map at the website for this new page so you may share the events with others.

☆☆☆☆

DecemberUNIT MEETINGThursday~ January 8th ~Time: Board 6:30 PM - General 7:00 PM

LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

☆☆☆☆

Here is the recipe for
Kathy's Yummy Peanut Butter Kookies:

2 cups Peanut Butter

2 eggs

2 cups sugar

2 tsp. vanilla

Add if wanted 1 cup of chocolate chips

Bake 350 for 11 - 13 minutes. Let cool a little before removing cookies to racks. ENJOY!!

Thank you Kathy Burleson!!

January 2009

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Monthly Meeting	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Eq-"Wine" Ride
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



UNIT MEETING

Thursday

Jan. 8th

6:30 PM

**Redshank
Riders
Monthly
Meeting**



February 2009

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

*All I pay my
psychiatrist is
the cost of feed
and hay, and
he'll listen to
me any day.*

Author Unknown

★★★★

Have you got some pictures
From a ride or event you would like to
share in the newsletter or website?
Email me at editor@redshankriders.com

BCHC Website

www.BCHCalifornia.net

THE NEWS ROOM

Read, Discuss, Act

Vern Whitaker Horse Camp



News from Vernon V. Whitaker Horse Camp, Anza Borrego Desert State Park
Email from Dick Overturf, Campground Host

Hi to all,

The weather here has been beautiful the last few weekends. Thanksgiving weekend was especially nice, with a full campground.

It's always nice as a campground host to see happy horse campers enjoying this campground and Coyote Canyon, from the time they arrive to the time they depart. At least that was my impression over the Thanksgiving period.

Part of the reason was the weather. Another part was the great job the different units of the Backcountry Horsemen did in clearing Lower Willows. I know the park really appreciates the tremendous effort put forth by each and every member who comes and helps out, whether up at Lower Willows, at the campground cooking up a great meal for the evening... or sanding picnic tables, etc.

Another reason is Ranger Nancy, who works her heart out for this park. After the Backcountry Horsemen departed, Nancy and a handful of resource personnel went up more than once to clear Middle Willows. I saw her after the first trip and asked her how it went. She said after putting in eleven hours clearing Middle Willows that day, she came back and could barely move. Yet, she went up again and finished the job. Ranger Nancy is truly a treasure for this park, and this is a request to each one of you to let her know how much she is appreciated when you see her. It is doubtful we will get another ranger like her, if she ever retires.

So, historic Coyote Canyon has been cleared from Lower Willows through Middle Willows now. One can ride all the way to Puerto Real de San Carlos, as Juan Bautista de Anza described the pass at the top of the 20 canyon. And yet, the campground has been mostly empty since the Thanksgiving weekend, and there are no reservations until New Year's Eve.

Some have described the campground as looking the best it has ever looked. Part of the reason is the reorganization of the corrals to give campers more room in individual campsites. Another is the new restrooms and showers. And there's the new saddle racks and bridle holders. These were mostly done by Scott Jordon from maintenance, who took this project on personally. Scott went up to Cuyamaca and cut the (dead and down) cedar trees himself, hauled them down, sanded them, dug the holes and put them in and stained them. No one told him to do this. A few other people helped Scott, but he is primarily responsible for this nice touch. Vern V. Whitaker would be proud.

Speaking of Vern, his nephew stopped by the other day from Utah. His name is Dennis Brosema. His mother was Minnie Whitaker, Vern's mother. Dennis said he grew up around his uncle Vern. As many of you know, Vern went to school in Oklahoma on a horse, while others were driving their cars to the school parking lot. Dennis heard there was a horse camp in California named after his uncle and he wanted to see it. It was fun visiting with Dennis about his uncle Vern. There's a couple of albums in the ranger office about the history of the horse camp and Vern Whitaker, etc., if anyone is interested. Just ask.

With the latest rain the Octotillo have green leaves on them, and a few have red flowers now. Even some of the Chuparrosas have a few red flowers on them. What a difference a little rain can make.

Some of you may not know this, but Ranger Don has the upper part of Coyote Canyon as part of his sector. I noticed that last Saturday he gave an interpretive talk at Bailey's cabin on the past, present and future of the area.

Last weekend was beautiful here with no horse campers. I had a guy drive in Saturday afternoon from Borrego in his car. He asked me where all the campers were? I said...good question. He looked around at the new restrooms/showers, we talked about the water system and the relatively new water well, the nice wind Ramada, the relatively new site and other improvements, the dumpsters that are emptied every Friday, whether there is anyone in the campground or not.

The guy asked me how the park can justify spending all the money on the campground and have it empty. I reminded him that volunteers for years and years did most of the work here...they helped build this campground....but his question was a good one, considering California's budget and financial situation. Come on

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

down with your horse and support Vern Whitaker Horse Camp. Gas/diesel prices are down and the costs to camp here have remained the same for over 3 years. There is also Wi-Fi here for any of you who may need to utilize the internet. If you care about this campground, please pass this email on to other horse people. I continue to be amazed at how many horse people, who live relatively close to Borrego Springs, do not know this campground exists.

Take care and see you soon. If you want to, email me or call to check on the weather before coming. Sincerely,
Dick Overturf - Campground Host

Vern Whitaker Horse Camp

Anza Borrego Desert State Park

Borrego Springs, Ca. 92004

(406) 425 7243 (My Verizon cell phone here at the campground)

P.S. This email was my idea. The opinions expressed are mine, not Ranger Nancy's or the park's

A RCHA sponsored ride:

Next Eq-"Wine" Ride Sat. January 17th "2009"

Beautiful Daley Ranch in Escondido!

Stage from Caballo Trail Equestrian Entrance-off Valley Center Rd. For you locals, we can meet at Big Horse Feed at 8:00AM to caravan down, everyone else meet at 9:00AM at the park's equestrian staging area. We will hit the trail by 9:30AM.

Bring your own lunch and beverages (no alcohol glass/cans allowed, so dig out that canteen for any adult beverages!) There is a large hitching post and trees at our picnic destination, The Ranch House (below), bring your halter and lead rope.

(not a BCHC or Redshank Riders ride)

RSVP ASAP

For more info: <http://www.ci.escondido.ca.us/glance/uniquely/daley/history.html>



The Temecula Eq-Wine Club

We Live to Ride!

Juanita Koth & Kerry Hoffmans
club founders

jkoth@dslextreme.com

951-515-9964

kerry@rockingfamilyranch.com

951-764-3146

Good Friends, Food, Wine & Horses!

Have you got some
pictures
from a ride, an
upcoming event, a great
animal story or joke
that you would like to
share in the newsletter
or website?

Your input is always
appreciated!!

Email me at
editor@redshankriders.com

Rhonda
Newsletter Editor &
Webmaster

Tentative Event and Ride Schedule 2009

January 2009

Jan 8h - Unit Meeting - LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

Jan 17th - Eq-"Wine" Ride

March 2009

April 2009

February 2009

2008 RAFFLE PRIZE DONORS

True Value Hardware
Hemet

Outlaw Hay & Grain
Anza

Big Horse Feed
Temecula

The Living Desert
Palm Desert

Paradise Corner Café
Garner Valley

Casa Gamino
Anza

Casino Pauma
Pauma

Anza Valley Hardware
Anza

Anza Village Market
Anza

371 Diner
Anza

Lorraine's Vet Supply
Anza

Dr. Fred Zadick
Veterinarian

Los Caballos Veterinary Hospital
Dr. Dennison

Spartan Vet Services
Dr. Zajac

Tom Call Horseshoeing
Anza

Steve Silkotch Horseshoeing
Anza

Janae's Hair Cottage
Laura Bussell - Anza

Kristie's Pet Grooming
Anza

Star Milling - Integrity, Ace-Hi, Kelley's

Round-Up Feed
Wildomar

Kahoots Feed & Pet Supplies
Murrieta

Dana Conklin - Artist,
Garner Valley

Susan Gonzales - Artist,
Garner Valley

Please Support these Merchants - Thank You!

Redshank Riders
BCHC
P.O. BOX 383
Agunga, Ca 92536



Happy
2009
from
Redshank Riders

