



# San Joaquin Sierra *Hoof Prints*



December 2012-January 2013

Issue 6

**San Joaquin Sierra Unit, BCHC**  
**PO Box 25693**  
**Fresno, CA 93729-5693**

**Email-** [sjsu@bchc.org](mailto:sjsu@bchc.org) (activity info./club contact)  
[membership@bchcalifornia.org](mailto:membership@bchcalifornia.org) (membership email only).  
**On the WEB:** <http://www.BCHC.org> (SJS unit) or  
<http://www.bchcalifornia.org> (State)

Max & Irene Cochran  
Newsletter Multiple  
Award Winner

1st - 2004  
1st - 2005  
3rd - 2006  
2nd - 2007  
2nd - 2008  
2nd - 2009  
2nd - 2010  
2nd - 2011



*Concerned Men and Women Dedicated to Gentle Use of California Trails and Backcountry*

## Thank you and see you in the saddle!

By Randy Witt

What a ride it's been, the exhilaration of accomplishment and the angst/aggravations of leadership. I'm talking of course about the experience of our excellent former supreme leader, John Mikkelsen.

John tread a very fine line between satisfying the older membership by continuing many traditional and customary events of our local BCHC/SJS unit and attracting new membership by initiating new and exciting programs.



During John's 4-year tenure, with the help of some mighty good, experienced hands, John continued our tradition of major work parties at Edison Lake, Crown Valley and an upgrade of the Big Meadows work party week. Our tradition of weekend country campouts continued. Play day and various horse desensitizing clinics continued, varied and improved. We participated in the Clovis Rodeo Parade.

John's leadership was not marked entirely by business-as-usual. Partly for the purpose of fund-raising, we successfully opened Poker Rides and Trail Trials to the public. John was largely responsible for a big upgrade in Christmas Party Auction Donations. John can take personal responsibility for what I hope will become a tradition with the "Shoot Your Heart Out" day in conjunction with the "The Range". John personally led excellent GPS and Orienteering classes, Red Cross First Aide/CPR classes, and has insured that we have members with USFS chainsaw certification.

Besides all these specific great events and programs, John brought to our unit enormous knowledge and skills he gained in the infantry and

cavalry units, Army Rangers, Law enforcement, and the Fresno SAR, Search and Rescue unit (see article in December issue of Western Horseman Magazine). John has eagerly and generously shared his knowledge with those of us with the wisdom to ask.

As with any leader's program, implementation cannot happen without willing and able partners. Perhaps at the top of that list of helpers would be John's Chief-of-State, Jan, his Vice President and President-elect Greg Caradonna, and the entire Board of Directors and Officers.

Perhaps the greatest complement to John would be to repeat my lovely wife's statement: "If I were ever in trouble in the wilderness or in an emergency situation, there's no one I'd rather have close than John!" (Me too!)

That's the kind of confidence and trust John's friends have in him. Thank you John, may the wind be always at your back.

## In this Issue

Page 2	Your 2012 Board, Your 2013 Board
Page 3	2013 Calendar
Page 4	Kid's Corral, Sunshine Corner, Travel Advantage
Page 5	Talent Moves, New Solar Electric Fence
Page 6	Annual Riddle Ride and Election Pictorial
Page 7	Grant Grove Ride Wrap-up
Page 8	Christmas Party is coming... RSVP Due December 1
Page 9	Rides By Tara!
Page 10	Board Minutes, Lone Oak Rescue
Page 11	Membership Information
Page 12	BCHC Objectives and Purpose

## **2012 OFFICERS/DIRECTORS**

### **President**

John Mikkelsen, 559-289-4911  
jessecowboy@comcast.net

### **Vice President**

Greg Caradonna, 559-351-5190  
gocaradonna@sbcglobal.net

### **Secretary**

Belinda Dominguez, 559-259-9645  
kerstin2224@yahoo.com

### **Treasurer**

Wanda Caradonna, 559-392-3534  
wandacaradonna@sbcglobal.net

## **DIRECTORS**

Term Expires

Joe Kaminski, 559-733-9170 2013  
kaminskiclan@gmail.com

Mary Odell, 559-658-7563 2013  
modell@sti.net

Cathie Walker, 559-439-8940 2013  
walker1486@comcast.net

Randy Witt, 559-325-7876 2013  
rcca33085@hotmail.com

Fredi Chrisman, 559-876-2416 2013

Katie Horst, 559-855-7765 2012  
ktdid@netptc.net

Carol Kaminski, 559-733-9170 2012  
kaminskiclan@gmail.com

### **Past President**

Char Meier, 559-297-1290  
shaverider@gmail.com

## **New in 2013**

### **OFFICERS/DIRECTORS**

### **President**

Greg Caradonna, 559-351-5190  
gocaradonna@sbcglobal.net

### **Vice President**

Joe Kaminski, 559-733-9170  
kaminskiclan@gmail.com

### **Secretary**

Cindy Pratt, 559-283-1174  
Chipzipnappy@aol.com

### **Treasurer**

Pete Parkin  
rideonscooter@yahoo.com

## **Directors**

Term Expires at year end

Ted Fischer, 559-855-8599 2013  
tjfishcer3@gmail.com

Carol Kaminski, 559-733-9170 2014  
kaminskiclan@gmail.com

Joe Kaminski, 559-733-9170 2013  
kaminskiclan@gmail.com

Wanda Caradonna, 559-392-3534 2014  
wandacaradonna@sbcglobal.net

Cathie Walker, 559-439-8940 2013  
walker1486@comcast.net

Randy Witt, 559-325-7876 2013  
rcca33085@hotmail.com

Fredi Chrisman, 559-876-2416 2013

Tara Stephenson, 559-977-2766 2014  
taralstephenson@aol.com

## **COORDINATORS**

### **Membership**

Jan Mikkelsen, 559-289-4911  
jessecowboy@comcast.net

### **Public Lands Liaison**

Joe Kaminski, 559-733-9170  
kaminskiclan@gmail.com

### **Publications/Newsletter**

Mary Odell, 559-658-7563  
modell@sti.net

### **Mailing Coordinator**

Jan Mikkelsen, 559-289-4911  
jessecowboy@comcast.net

### **Education Coordinator**

Randy Witt, 559-325-7876  
rcca33085@hotmail.com

### **Shaver Lake Camp Host**

Char Meier, 559-297-1290  
shaverider@gmail.com

### **Sunshine Chair**

Diana Pierce, 559-285-6463  
dmpierce@sti.net

### **Web Wrangler**

Toby Horst, 559-855-7765  
easyrider@netptc.net

### **Advisors**

Caroline Witt, 559-325-7876  
Toby Horst, 559-855-7765

## **COORDINATORS**

### **Membership**

Jan Mikkelsen, 559-289-4911  
jessecowboy@comcast.net

### **Public Lands Liaison**

Joe Kaminski, 559-733-9170  
kaminskiclan@gmail.com

### **Publications/Newsletter**

Carolyn Witt, 559-325-7876  
rcca33085@hotmail.com

### **Mailing Coordinator**

Jan Mikkelsen, 559-289-4911  
jessecowboy@comcast.net

### **Education Coordinator**

Ted Fischer, 559-855-8599  
tjfishcer3@gmail.com

### **Shaver Lake Camp Host**

Char Meier, 559-297-1290  
shaverider@gmail.com

### **Sunshine Chair**

Diana Pierce, 559-285-6463  
dmpierce@sti.net

### **Web Wrangler**

Toby Horst, 559-855-7765  
easyrider@netptc.net

### **Advisors**

Caroline Witt, 559-325-7876  
Toby Horst, 559-855-7765



*J. Reynoso*  
Saddle & Tack Repair

J. Reynoso  
559-877-2981

34731 Road 221  
Wishon, CA 93669

## **Advertising Rates**

### **Classified Ads**

\$.10/word with a 20 word minimum (\$2.00), \$.50 a line after that.

### **Display Ad Rate per issue**

Business Card Size, \$8.00,

1/4 page, \$20.00,

1/2 page, \$35.00,

Full Page, \$50.00

Prices are subject to change without notice. **All prices are for one month, due the 10th of the month.** Editor reserves the right to refuse inappropriate ads.

**All paid Ads include an  
E-mail Blast to all  
members with  
current emails**

### **Starting 2013**

### **NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Carolyn Witt  
6208 Amber  
Clovis, CA 93619  
559-325-7876  
rcca33085@hotmail.com

### **Hoof Print 2013 Deadlines**

Advertising, announcements, pictures  
and other copy must be received by  
editor by the deadline listed below.

<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Publication</b>
January 20	February/March
March 20	April/May
May 20	June/July
July 20	August/September
September 20	October/November
November 20	December/January

The purpose of this publication is to keep its members informed on important issues that affect all horsemen and to inform the membership on upcoming events within the unit. The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the editor & authors and not necessarily shared by BCHC.

### **Attention**

Your SJS Unit Board of Directors would like to invite any of our members to attend the monthly Board meetings or General meetings. It is important all directors have the same opportunity to hear the information, concerns or complaints you wish to share. Remember, we are volunteers doing our best to keep our Unit informed and working smoothly. Refer to the newsletter for the information regarding times and location of upcoming meetings.

Respectfully  
Toby Horst & Char Meier  
Past Presidents

### **Outgoing NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Mary Odell  
33273 Vetoll Road  
Coarsegold, CA 93614  
559-658-7563  
modell@sti.net

### **Calling ALL Members!**

Remember to please send an email to  
Chip Herzig:  
chipherzig@gmail.com

Let him know how you want  
your **State Newsletter:**



Or

Snail Mail



*Must be a member and  
may join at any ride*

## **2012-2013 Calendar**

*Must be a member and  
may join at any ride*

**Board Meetings** are on the **1st Wednesday** of the month starting on January 5, 2012. All members are welcome to attend. Board meetings start at 6:30 pm at the Clovis Elks Lodge, 535 Woodworth Ave. (Bullard & Woodworth).

**Calendar & Ride schedule is on-going, and new events and rides will be published when confirmed.** *Note: dates and events are subject to change or cancellation; calling the contact person is recommended.*

December 8	Annual Christmas <b>Party</b>	Wanda Caradonna, 559-392-3534
------------	-------------------------------	-------------------------------

### **2013**

January 12	Avocado Lake <b>Ride</b>	Tara Stephenson, 559-977-2766
------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------

January 17	General <b>Meeting</b> Clovis Memorial, Freedom Room, 6:30pm	Any Board Member
------------	---	------------------

January 19	Millerton Lake <b>Ride</b> , North Side	Tara Stephenson, 559-977-2766
------------	---	-------------------------------

January 26	January Ranch <b>Ride</b>	Tracy Knepper, 559-313-8422
------------	---------------------------	-----------------------------

February 9	Annual Shoot Your <b>Heart</b> Out	John & Jan Mikkelsen, 559-289-4911
------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------------

February 16	Hensley Lake/Buck Ridge <b>Ride</b>	Tara Stephenson, 559-977-2766
-------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------

February 23	Coffman Ranch <b>Ride</b>	Tara Stephenson, 559-977-2766
-------------	---------------------------	-------------------------------

March 16	Membership Appreciation <b>Ride</b> San Joaquin River Gorge	Tara Stephenson, 559-977-2766; Ted Fischer, 559-855-8599 John & Jan Mikkelsen, 559-289-4911
----------	--	---

March 20	General <b>Meeting</b> Clovis Memorial, Freedom Room, 6:30pm	Any Board Member
----------	---	------------------

March 22-24, 2013	BCHC <b>Rendezvous</b> Norco: George Ingalls Equestrian Event Center	Any Board Member
-------------------	---	------------------

April 13 or 20	Parade <b>Practice/Desensitizing Clinic</b>	Jan Mikkelsen, 559-289-4911
----------------	---	-----------------------------

April 27	Clovis <b>Parade &amp; Rodeo</b>	
----------	----------------------------------	--

May TBA	Jose Basin <b>Campout</b> & Packing Practice	Toby & Katie Horst, 559-855-7765
---------	---	----------------------------------

May 22	General <b>Meeting</b> Clovis Memorial, Freedom Room, 6:30pm	Any Board Member
--------	---	------------------

August 14	General <b>Meeting</b> Clovis Memorial, Freedom Room, 6:30pm	Any Board Member
-----------	--	------------------

Please contact any Board Member if you want to host a ride or activity.

Remember to check for any Unit updates at our Web Site:

**[www.BCHC.org](http://www.BCHC.org)** for the San Joaquin/Sierra Unit,  
**[www.bchcalifornia.org](http://www.bchcalifornia.org)** for the State Web Site



# KIDS CORNER

## Thank you MOUNTAIN MANNERS

Back Country Horsemen of Montana  
Keep stock and toilets away from water.



Tie stock away from water – 200 feet, if possible. Locate your toilet at least 200 feet from water, too. Use that shovel for disposal of human waste. If the camp is to be used for a number of days (like a hunting camp) dig a pit. Fill it in before you leave.

**Protect the water you drink!**

Think about those folks camping downstream.

## "Travel Advantage"

Dear BCHC Members

Check out the latest edition of "Travel Advantage", @ [www.ytbtravel.com/bchc](http://www.ytbtravel.com/bchc) a travel newsletter full of terrific deals from YTB, our BCHC travel partner. The newsletter is chock full of great ideas for anyone's next getaway! You can download an icon to your computer desktop for instant connection to the BCHC Getaway website. Please forward "Travel Advantage" newsletter to your friends and family and other BCHC supporters. The more we get the word out, the more people will use the BCHC Getaway travel site to take advantage of great rates on hotels, flights, rental cars and other travel-related items, the more BCHC will earn for our Treasury!!

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the travel site, how it works or what BCHC earns by participating in this great opportunity. Thank you for supporting and promoting BCHC Getaway!!

C.J. Hargreaves  
BCHC Editor/Travel Site  
Coordinator  
[cjhargreaves@verizon.net](mailto:cjhargreaves@verizon.net)



## The Sunshine Corner

By Diana Pierce



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Kim Anderson, Fresno  
Rick Evans, Fresno  
Jan Doyle, Fresno  
Thomas and Debra Winegarden, Fresno  
Jerry and Sherry Smith, Auberry  
Tom Smart, Simi Valley

We're always excited to welcome our new members. Remember to invite others you know who enjoy their equine friends and the back country to join us too! New members can join at any ride.

### MEMBER NEWS

**Mary Odell** will be leaving the San Joaquin Sierra unit the first of the year to join another unit closer to her home. Mary's dedication and hard work will never be forgotten. You were an inspiration to all of us. Your new unit has gained one dynamic woman. We wish you the best of luck, Mary. You will be deeply missed.

To all members who adopted or fostered abused and homeless animals a BIG THANK YOU. Have a safe and happy holiday season. This column is intended to help us all keep up to date with the important events in the lives of our members. If you have something of significance happening in your family or know of something happening in another member's family, please send the information to [dmpierce@sti.net](mailto:dmpierce@sti.net). Thank you.



**Looking to buy or place a horse? Need help placing one in a good home? Wanting to stop the expenses and take a write off for your horse or horse related losses? We can help with all!**

### New Corporation with a Mission!

Sport Equine Incorporated was formed earlier this year with a mission to make a difference in the horse community. Shifting our focus from purely competition to serving the greatest needs facing the industry as we see it; addressing the problem of horse owner hardship and the ever increasing over population of unwanted horses in need.

### Not Your Everyday Horse Rescue!

Sport Equine Inc. provides the continuous horse rescue and rehab services commonly associated with public benefit non profit entities but we differ dramatically in the fact that we do not stockpile idle horses hoping for qualified adopters to come along. While a lucky few horses get homes this way, there are multitudes who will remain unwanted and never get the opportunity to realize their potential or find their ideal human match unless they are trained and developed into educated useful animals. Training services are cost prohibitive for the average rescue organization already struggling and full to capacity. At Sport Equine Inc., problem solving, training and developing horses is our specialty! Every horse accepted into our program goes into customized full professional training. This enables them to showcase their aptitude when a suitable adopter arrives and gives them a chance for a long, happy, productive life. In addition to preparing horses for useful careers in pleasure and performance, we specialize in matching horse/rider suitability and provide ongoing support to our adopters. Please see the testimonials on our updated website!

### Fallen through the cracks to bridging the gaps!

Sport Equine Inc., actively educates the public against over breeding of horses and heavily promotes adopting horses needing homes before creating more. We educate the public and teach our students how proper training can transform a 'fallen through the cracks' horse to a 'bridging the gap horse' that people want and need.

Visit our newly updated website for the latest news and current horses!  
559 307-0789 [www.sportequine.net](http://www.sportequine.net)

## GREAT TALENT MOVES ON

By Carolyn Witt

From the San Joaquin/Sierra Valley Unit a BIG "THANK YOU" to Mary Odell for her dedication the past 12 years in



being our Newsletter Editor. It was a big job and she did it graciously and untiringly.

Everyone is grateful to her and to her husband, Scott (Mr. Proofreader). She received many awards from the

state organization at the yearly Rendezvous for "Hoof Prints".

She also helped on many events and work parties with encouraging words to others, helpful tips, and lots of energy. Mary led many impromptu as well as organized rides.

She just became a Wilderness Rider this year and joined the ranks of the Leave No Trace (LNT) Leadership of BCHC. If you are ever around Mary you will always be smiling because her personality is so electrifying and her antidotes to situations she has been in are so entertaining. She is one-of-a-kind and we will all miss her.

**Happy trails to you, Mary!**

### SJSU purchases a portable Solar Electric Fence System

For many years the SJSU has used member owned electric fences for containing high country stock in mountain meadows during grazing periods.

This is a time-tested method to keep control of mules and horses while allowing them to graze a mountain meadow. Now the SJSU has purchased, through a Resource Advisory



Committee grant (US Forest Service), a solar powered, battery backup, Gallagher electric fence system for the Unit's use.

The system is meant for use on work projects and training of member stock so that the minimum amount of impact is caused while grazing pack and saddle stock on mountain meadows. The system will weigh about 45lbs with fiberglass poles, 1320ft of Poly wire, insulators, Gallagher charger, 10 amp/hour battery and 10 watt solar panel.

Those SJSU members interested in training their horses and mules for electric fence containment can borrow the system once it is completely assembled to use at your home base. Person training in use of the system will be necessary as it is different from conventional electric fence systems.

You can contact Toby or Katie Horst, 559-855-7765 or email [easyrider@netptc.net](mailto:easyrider@netptc.net) for more details on using the system for training purposes.

### SJS Unit Fund Raisers For Sale

#### "There's a Mule Under My Saddle Cookbook"

by Jean Brown of Idaho

\$10.00

#### Hats

\$15.00

Khaki with a maroon or forest green bill and are embroidered with one horse, two mules and says Backcountry Horsemen of California.

#### Scarf

\$10.00

Scarves are a light or dark blue and are embroidered with one horse, two mules and says Backcountry Horsemen of California

#### Maroon Shirts

\$35.00 (Extra Tall \$38.00). The

shirts must be prepaid before the order. The logo on the right has the person's first name and the left is BCHC with San Joaquin Sierra Unit under the BCHC.

#### Horse First Aid.....

great, informative quick reference

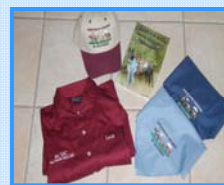
\$25.00!

Contacts: **Wanda Caradonna** at 559 392-3534,

[wandacaradonna@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wandacaradonna@sbcglobal.net)

**Belinda Dominguez** 559-259-9645, [kerstin2224@yahoo.com](mailto:kerstin2224@yahoo.com)

&/or look for items at our rides and meetings.



180 W. Bullard Ave.  
Clovis, CA 93614

Your Full Service Realtor

**Jessica Gabrielson**

Realtor, GRI, SRES, SFR, ASP

559.905.7724

Office 559.321.6040

Fax 559.321.6044

[jgabrielson@guarantee.com](mailto:jgabrielson@guarantee.com)

DRE#01338726



*"I don't horse around when it comes to selling your property!"*



# Annual Riddle Ride and Elections Pictorial

See Election results on Page 2



Pictures by Sue Crain and  
Tara Stephenson





November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7,000 Feet  
**General Grant Ride**

By Tara Stephenson

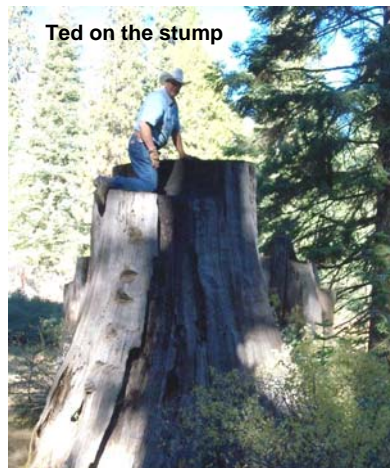
Who would have thought that we'd be riding in short sleeve shirts up at 7,000 feet in November? What a beautiful day to ride. Seven of our members were treated to a not only perfect weather but also learned a little about some of the sights they saw that day. Those members were: **Jo Ann Caufield, Ted Fischer, Cara Peterson, Cindy Schueler, Jan Doyle (new member, joined that day, woo hoo), Debbie McFarren and myself.**

We mounted up in the parking area in the shade of a HUGE redwood and stopped for a photo op, then it was off to the trail. We traveled along the **Sunset Trail** through majestic redwoods and lush greenery. We passed above the Hot Shot camp (*The National Park Service established its Interagency Hotshot Crew program in May of 1981, the Arrowhead Hotshot crew being one of the three crews formed at that time. These three crews were the first non-Forest Service Hotshot crews established. They were also the first Hotshot Crews to be funded by the Department of the Interior. Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks has been the home unit for the Arrowhead Hotshots since the crew's inception.*)



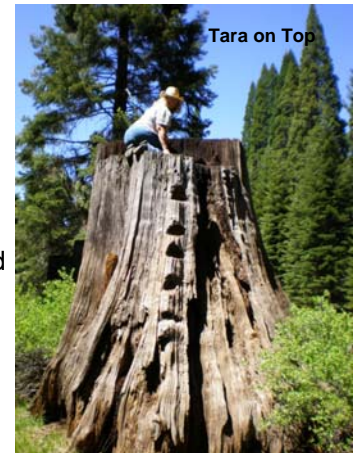
**The Group**

We then intersected with the **South Boundary Trail** and rode that into **Hitchcock Meadow** where Ted treated us to a stump climbing (I personally thought this was the highlight of the ride, hehehe). The stumps in Hitchcock Meadow were logged in the late 1800's and most of those trees were about 2,000 years old. After Ted's show, we traveled down into **Big Stump Meadow** for our lunch break. The beginning of



**Ted on the stump**

the path is marked by an information board and map; the trail leads down a hillside into the forest, past one very large sequoia and out into a wide, circular meadow dotted by many weathered stumps and logs, which provide quite a contrast to the green forest and lush grass-land all around. The dry, dark, dead stumps seem quite out of place in this otherwise healthy landscape, as if placed here artificially. In the 1880s the meadow housed the **Smith Comstock Lumber Mill**, an operation which split the timber into fence posts and stakes to be used for vineyards and farms in the Central Valley. One well known stump is of the **Mark Twain Tree**, a 1,350 year old sequoia that was felled in 1891 after a team of two men spent 13 days sawing it. Now the top is reached by a short ladder, allowing for a close up look at the growth ring patterns. That is where Debbie and Jo Ann (see below) decided to eat their lunch,



**Tara on Top**

good idea! Another named feature is '**Feather Bed**', the name given to a trench that was dug beneath a tree about to be cut, then filled with thin branches in order to cushion the fall, since sequoia wood is quite brittle and liable to shatter on impact. The one remaining trench is now overgrown with grass and bushes.

After lunch, we crossed over the main highway to head on up to see the **Sawed Tree**, a tall sequoia that bears the scars of deep cuts from a band saw made over a century ago, though now the tree is perfectly healthy. Quite a sight to see! We then headed back down the **South Boundary Trail**, then back to the **Sunset Trail** back to our trailers. Cara, Jan and I decided that 5 hours in the saddle wasn't enough so we headed out to check out the **Sequoia Lake Lookout** for a spectacular view of the lake and the **Dead Giant**, a massive sequoia that spans the length of the meadow it rests in, well worth an additional hour in the saddle. All in all, happy people and happy horses!

**Lunch Break for Debbie and Jo Anne**



# Backcountry Horsemen

San Joaquin Sierra Unit

## Christmas Party

**Date:** December 8, 2012

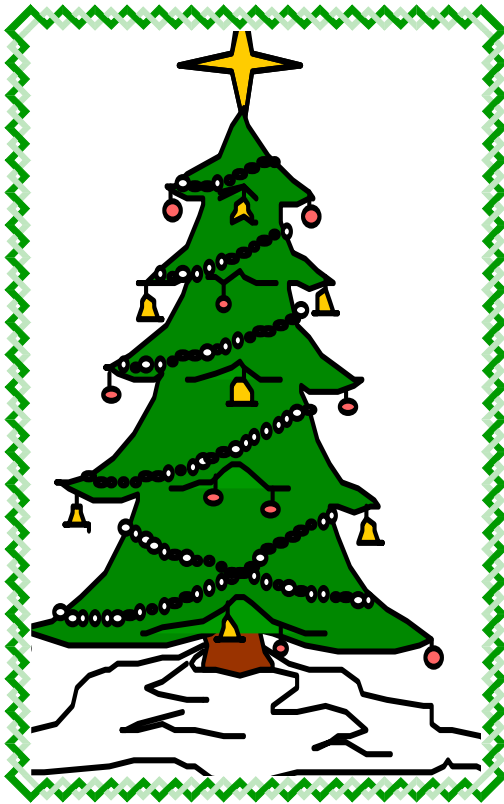
**Cost:** \$25 per person

**Time:** 5:00 pm Social Hour

7:00 pm Dinner

**Location: Clovis Elks Lodge**

**535 Woodworth Ave, Clovis**



Come for the food, friends, auctions-both silent and live...Many great items available again!

**Music and Dancing  
with Hired DJ,  
John Harman**

**Christmas Party Committee:**

**Wanda Caradonna-Chair**

Cathie Walker

Jan Mikkelson

Sue Lehman

**Need Additional HELP.**

Please contact Wanda

559-392-3534

wandacaradonna@sbcglobal.net



Backcountry Horseman Christmas Party R.S.V.P.  
Please RSVP by December 1, 2012

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Numbers of Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

Chicken Dinners # \_\_\_\_\_

Tri Tip Dinners # \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** BCHC-San Joaquin Sierra Unit  
P.O. Box 25693  
Fresno, CA 93729-5693

Paid amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_



# RIDES BY TARA

## Calendar for January and February

### **Jan 12 – Avocado Lake/Orchard Ride 10 am**

A nice 3-4+ hour ride around the lake, break for lunch, then off to the orchards for some conditioning of our horses...on this ride there will be a lake (if you'd like to take your horse in the water), some large river rocks out and around the lake and then smaller rocks in the orchard which my barefoot horse can handle just fine. There will be cars and people around the lake. There is a five dollar fee to enter the park. After our lunch break, we will head out into the orange orchards for some conditioning, some small and some large hills you can climb with your horse if you choose. You might encounter wild boar on portion of the ride but they are usually harmless and run the other way when approached by horses. You might also encounter coyotes and jack rabbits. After our fill of that, we will head back to the lake and our trailers to end our ride. Please RSVP to **Tara Stephenson** by January 9th at either [Tara1Stephenson@aol.com](mailto:Tara1Stephenson@aol.com) or call her at 559-977-2766, at that time, she can give you directions and answer any questions.

### **Jan 19<sup>th</sup> - Millerton Lake – North side 10 am**

An easy dirt trail that goes from the horse corrals on the north side back a few miles around the lake and then back. Approximately length of ride 2-3+ hours including a lunch break. There might be hikers and or bikes on this trail. There might also be car traffic alongside some areas of the trail. There is ten dollar admittance to the lake. Please RSVP to **Tara Stephenson** by January 16th at either [Tara1Stephenson@aol.com](mailto:Tara1Stephenson@aol.com) or call her at 559-977-2766, at that time, she can give you directions and answer any questions.

### **Jan 26<sup>th</sup> – January Ranch Ride 10 am**

An easy 3+ hour ride leaving out from the January Ranch (located on the north east side of Sanger). From the ranch, we will head out onto the trail that takes us back alongside the Kings River, back behind the Harris River Ranch. We will get to see the location on which some parts of the movie Roadhouse was filmed. We will continue along the river, find a nice place to stop for lunch and then head back to the January Ranch to end our ride. While on this ride, we might encounter some deer and cattle. Minimum rocks so barefoot horses will be okay. No fee for admittance, we will park at the ranch. Your trail boss for this ride will be **Tracy Knepper**; you can give her a call for directions and questions at 559-313-8422. Please RSVP to Tara Stephenson by January 23rd at either [Tara1Stephenson@aol.com](mailto:Tara1Stephenson@aol.com) or call her at 559-977-2766.

### **February 16<sup>th</sup> - Hensley Lake/Buck Ridge Ride 10 am**

This is a nice 2-3 hour ride including time for lunch break. This trail runs alongside the lake, some parts of the trail offer very pretty views of the lake. Wide to narrow dirt trails, some rocks and climbs. This trail is shared with bike riders and hikers. Might have small water crossings. There is a four dollar day use charge. Large parking area with picnic benches and bathrooms. . Please RSVP to **Tara Stephenson** by February 13th at either [Tara1Stephenson@aol.com](mailto:Tara1Stephenson@aol.com) or call her at 559-977-2766, at that time, she can give you directions and answer any questions.

### **February 23<sup>rd</sup> – Coffman Ranch Ride 10 am**

Always a nice ride at the Coffman Ranch! Ten dollar haul in fee which includes use of their arenas, round pens; heck, we can even give our horse a warm water bath if we are so inclined after the ride. The ride will be about 2-3+ hours including a lunch break. The Coffman Ranch has some nice single track trails to follow or we can just amble about if we are in the mood to do so. Located in the foothills so there will be little bits of climbing along the trails as well as cattle roaming around. . Please RSVP to **Tara Stephenson** by February 20th at either [Tara1Stephenson@aol.com](mailto:Tara1Stephenson@aol.com) or call her at 559-977-2766, at that time, she can give you directions and answer any questions.

## **AND MUCH MORE TO COME IN THE MONTHS TO COME!**

# Lone Oak Rescue

Located in Coarsegold, CA

## Who we are:

**Lone Oak Rescue is a charitable non-profit organization. Our focus is horse rescue and rehabilitation. We take in horses who are unable to be kept in their current situation and are often at high risk of going to slaughter.**

**Some have come from a situation of neglect, abuse, or have just been abandoned.**

**With the current economy many owners are simply no longer able to care for their horses. We provide a safe haven for these horses, allow them to recover and retrain them when necessary.**

**When ready these horses are adopted out to safe and loving homes, those not able to be adopted find a permanent home here at Lone Oak.**

**We are committed to our animals for life, checking on them in their new homes to ensure a good match with their new owners.**

November 10, 2012 05:40:00 am

The days have flown by quickly, and though there is still much to be done, there has been much progress with settling into our new home. We have our 2 barns up and we have now several large pens to separate horses into. A special thank you to my son Christian and daughter Elisa for their efforts in assembling of our barns and pens. Our round pen is being used well by our newest board member Patricia Vallentyne who stays busy training several of our horses. We are in process of setting up a larger arena in which to continue training and exercise those under saddle.

We have several adoptions that have taken place since coming to our new home, they are JD, Whiskey, Grace, Jester, Ray and Kay and we have pending adoptions with Splash, Lightning, and Holly. Colton is currently being sponsored off site by Patricia. Of our latest rescue horses we are happy to provide a forever home to Spirit and Jackson, they will join Mahogany, Rio and Tina in permanent placement here at Lone Oak. As mentioned Patricia is busy training horses, those horses currently in training include Jessie, Willow, Choctaw, Lady, Mia and Macy.

Our new location means new challenges and opportunity alike. We are in need of more hands to help with the many duties of running the rescue and the ideas for expansion and community involvement are many. We have a need for additional hands to work with our many horses that need training. If you are an experienced horse person and interested in assisting Patricia with horse evaluation and training please email us with your information. We would like 2 more persons to work with Patricia in preparing horses for adoption. As well we are looking for several individuals to assist in management of key areas of the rescue, including, volunteer recruitment and management; site development and management; public awareness and fundraising management. These individuals will be responsible for planning and general operation within their areas. If you are interested in becoming a key member in our rescue or simply want to help with daily care including cleaning, feeding, grooming and exercising horses, please contact us. If you are local you are welcome to make an appointment to come out and discuss your ideas and availability.

Being new in the area, many do not know we are here, so we need to spread the word! I am looking forward to meeting members of the local Back Country Horseman of California and sharing our rescue mission and hope to raise awareness and invite others to join our rescue efforts. If you know of a group who would like to know more about us or would like to be involved with the rescue please let us know, we can arrange a presentation or a visit. We are always looking for opportunity to share the rescue mission and encourage others to be involved.

As with many non-profits this is a difficult time and we are in great need of donations, if you are able please consider a single or small monthly donation, even small amounts help. We currently provide care for 22 horses, and donations of hay or feed are greatly needed. We are also happy to accept any donation of horse or non-horse items as well, as we will soon be opening our own eBay store to help raise funds for the rescue.

Our efforts together add up to helping these horses into a safe and loving homes, our rescue is 100% volunteer run by people who want to make a difference. To our newest helpers Patricia, Kayleen and Bree thank you for being a part of our success.

*Taken from the Lone Oak Rescue web site: <http://www.loneoakrescue.org>*

## Board of Director's Meeting Wednesday, August 8<sup>th</sup> 2012 Clovis Elks Lodge

**John Mikkelsen** called the meeting to order at 6:38pm.

Reviewed minutes of July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. The minutes were read and approved as corrected.

Correspondence: No correspondence

Treasurer's Report, **Wanda Caradonna**:

YTD Income	(\$1,341.61)
YTD Expenses	(2,898.30)
YTD Profit (Loss)	(4,239.91)
General Checking	\$10,485.44
CD's and Savings	\$11,260.32

\*Work Parties have not been reimbursed with approved grants as of this date.

### Committee Reports:

**Education:** Randy reported Dave Savore, Ferrier, will be the speaker for the general meeting.

**Membership:** Jan discussed the need for full membership list at events.

**Newsletter:** Mary stated next deadline is September 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Lands:** Joe Kaminsky at Crown Valley, update coming.

**Shaver Lake:** Char reported that the deer season was upon us:  
Bow – Aug 18- Sept 9  
Rifle – Sept 15 – Oct 28

### Old Business:

**Poker Ride:** For Sept 8<sup>th</sup>, 19 riders with 10 trailers have signed up to date.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm



☐ NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Backcountry Horsemen of California

☐ RENEWAL APPLICATION



☐ CHANGE - ( ) PARENT UNIT ( ) ADDRESS/PHONE/EMAIL ( ) MEMBERSHIP TYPE

DCTR (YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER) \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*NEW MEMBERS WILL BE ASSIGNED NUMBER BY MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR**

PARENT Unit Affiliation: (Select and **CIRCLE ONE** Unit as your Primary Unit Affiliation)

Antelope Valley  
Eastern Sierra  
High Country  
High Sierra  
Kern River Valley  
Kern Sierra  
Lake-Mendo  
Los Padres

Mid Valley  
Mother Lode  
North Bay  
Ohlone Riders  
Redshank Riders  
Redwood  
San Diego  
San Geronio

San Joaquin Sierra  
Santa Ana River  
Sequoia  
Shasta Trinity  
Sierra Freepackers  
Sutter Buttes  
Top of the State

**MAIL TO:**  
BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN  
OF CALIFORNIA

P.O. Box 535  
Beaumont, CA 92223

<http://www.bchcalifornia.org>

**Donate to BCHC  
Education Fund?  
Tax Deductible**

Packer	\$10.00
Mule Skinner	\$25.00
You're the Greatest	\$50.00

MEMBER'S NAME -No Business Names; Please Print Clearly

SPOUSE/MEMBER'S NAME -MUST SHARE SAME ADDRESS

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_

DATE SUBMITTED: \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS NAME - DONATIONS ONLY:

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**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 - **KEEP BELOW INFORMATION FOR YOUR RECORDS**

**PARENT BCHC MEMBERSHIP TYPES**

Individual, Family (Shared\*), Benefactor, Patron, and Mt Whitney. A Parent Membership is affiliated with a single Local Unit. BCHC members may NOT hold more than one active Parent Membership.

\*A SHARED Membership is for two adults with differing last names, each sharing a common address.

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS**

These special Memberships are only available to persons already holding Parent BCHC Membership. No one may sign up for an Associate Membership without 1) having registered one of the Parent Membership types, and 2) having selected Parent Unit affiliation.

- You may sign-up for as many Associate Memberships as you like.
- Associate Memberships may also be initiated at any time during the term of your Parent Membership.
- Associate Memberships must expire concurrently with the Parent Membership, and are renewable only at the time of renewal of the Parent Membership.

Complete information regarding BCHC Membership is available on the MEMBERSHIP page at: <http://www.bchcalifornia.org>

**KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS**

I SUBMITTED AN Application Form for:

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	\$ 40.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family (Shared) Membership	\$ 50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor Membership	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron Membership	\$250.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Mt Whitney Membership	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Donation - Packer	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Mule Skinner	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> You're the Greatest!	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Membership	\$ _____
Total Remittance	\$ _____
Check Number	_____
Date Mailed	_____

Questions: Contact [membership@bchcalifornia.org](mailto:membership@bchcalifornia.org)



## San Joaquin Sierra Unit

P.O. Box 25693

Fresno, CA 93729-5693

Years End



## ***Objectives & Purpose of the Backcountry Horseman 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 the backcountry trails and forage areas open to horseman on all public lands.
- 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.
- To promote public awareness and interest in the historical aspect of horsemen and stock in the backcountry and to help educate backcountry users on the ways to use the trail and foraged in a manner that conserves the backcountry resources.
- To assist in keeping the public informed of the vital need for a clean backcountry.
- To promote a working relationship with and keep the work and interests of the Corporation before our local, state and federal officials.
- To assist in the formation and continuation of local Units to carry out these purposes.