



San Joaquin Sierra

Hoof Prints



June—July 2013

Issue 3

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

Email- sjsu@bchc.org (activity info./club contact)
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
 2nd - 2012



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



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

If you have not been following our event calendar, you need to. As the board promised, it is offering something for everyone. There are several day rides at **General Grant's Grove** and **Fish Camp**. Packing practice at **Jose Basin**, a campout ride at **Spanish Lake**, trips to the coast; **Montana De Oro** and **Brooks Ranch** and even a poker ride which is open to the general public. Don't forget the work parties are starting to kick into gear.

Our unit has adopted **Chamberlin Meadows** as one of our projects this year, and the unit plans to return to **Big Meadows** for a combo week, the first part of the week will be a work party and second the part will be a unit ride. Those of you who want to Pony an animal during unit rides, Kathy Rhode and others will be putting on a **Horse and Mule Ponying Training Clinic** on June 8, 2013.

To each of you who have taken your personal time to make our Event Calendar come alive - **Thank You.**

For you Ford and Dodge lovers, my 2007 Chevy 2500 Diesel lost the front wheel bearing at 55,000 miles (no warranty) – maybe it's a Dodge next time around. Our truck has been fixed thanks to my father-in-law (Richard), the camper is now loaded and the horse trailer is connected, and we are off to the Wishon Dam area for three days. On another note, please contact me if you would like to be in charge of our Christmas party this year – we need some help (free training). In case you were wondering our unit is going again, and we currently are up to 213 members, though my personal goal is 250.

As a safety reminder, ride in pairs, but more importantly, always let someone know where you are going and your planned return date and time. Stay safe!

Hope to see you at the next ride!

Your President, Greg Caradonna

In this Issue

Page 1	President's Message
Page 2	Officers and Coordinators
Page 3	2013 Calendar
Page 4-5	General Grant Tree Ride
Page 6	Yosemite Lake Park Ride
Page 7	Shaver Lake Campground and Kids Corner
Page 8-9	Desensitizing Clinic
Page 10-11	Clovis Rodeo
Page 12	Rides by Tara
Page 13	Jose Basin Pack and Ride
Page 14	Montana De Oro Ride Information
Page 15	Saddle Fitting Clinic
Page 16	Sunshine Corner and Ads
Page 17	Ponying Clinic Flier
Page 18	Poker Ride Flier
Page 19-20	Board Minutes
Page 21	Membership Form

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 559-871-4500
ktzpaw@yahoo.com

DIRECTORS

Term Expires at year end

Ted Fischer, 559-855-8599
tjfischer3@gmail.com 2013

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

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

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

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

Fredi Chrisman, 559-876-2416
2013

Tara Stephenson, 559-977-2766
tara1stephenson@aol.com 2014

Past President

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

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
cawittbchc@yahoo.com

Mailing Coordinator

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

Education Coordinator

Ted Fischer, 559-855-8599
tjfischer3@gmail.com

Ride Coordinator

Tara Stephenson, 559-977-2766
tara1stephenson@aol.com

Shaver Lake Camp Host

Wanda Caradonna, 559-392-3534, wandacaradonna@sbcglobal.net
Char Meier, 559-297-1290
shaverider@gmail.com

Sunshine Chair

Rebecca Balistreri, 559-905-3854, beckybala@hotmail.com

Web Wrangler

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

Advisors

Carolyn Witt, 559-325-7876
cawittbchc@yahoo.com
Toby Horst, 559-855-7765
easyrider@netptc.net

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, 1/2 page, \$35.00,
1/4 page, \$20.00, 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

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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

Hoof Print 2013 Deadlines

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

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Publication</u>
July 20	August/Sept.
Sept. 20	Oct./Nov.
Nov. 20	Dec./January

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 suggestions you wish to share. 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**

"Travel Advantage"

Dear BCHC Members

Check out the latest edition of "Travel Advantage", @ 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
cjohargreaves@verizon.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

By E-mail



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

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

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

2013 Calendar

Board Meetings are on the **1st Wednesday** of the month. 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 or checking www.bchc.org*

June 1	General Grant Grover Ride	Tara Stephenson, 559-977-2766
June 8	Horse and Mule Training Ponying Clinic	Kathy Rhode, 559-528-4515
June 15	General Grant Grove Ride, in saddle by 9	Tara Stephenson, 559-977-2766
June 17-23	Chamberlain Meadow Horse Camp Work Party	Joe and Carol Kaminski 559-733-9170 Toby and Katy Horst, 559-855-7765
June 22	General Grant Grove Ride, in saddle by 9	Tara Stephenson, 559-977-2766
June 29	General Grant Grove Ride, in saddle by 9	Tara Stephenson, 559-977-2766
July 7-13	Chamberlain Meadow Horse Camp Work Party	Joe and Carol Kaminski 559-733-9170 Toby and Katy Horst, 559-855-7765
July 12-14	Montana De Oro Ride	Pete Parkin, 559-871-4500
July 19-21`	Tamarack Ride	Toby and Katie Horst , 559-855-7765
August 9, 10, 11	Spanish Lake Campout and Ride Limit of 15 riders	Joe and Carol Kaminski 559-733-9170
August 14	General Meeting Clovis Memorial, Freedom Room, 6:30pm	Any Board Member
August 18-24	Big Meadows Horse Camp Work Party	Joe and Carol Kaminski, 559-733-9471
September 7	Shaver Lake Poker Ride Ride is open to the public	Char Meier 559-297-1290 and Wanda Caradonna 559-433-0734
October 19	Riddle Ranch General Meeting and Ride	Cathie Walker, 559-283-1164
December 14	Annual Christmas Party	Put the date on your calendar and join us for fun, camaraderie and music

More rides to be added after July by Tara, check back on the website.

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

www.BCHC.org for the San Joaquin/Sierra Unit,

www.bchcalifornia.org for the State Web Site

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

General Grant Tree Ride – April 6th, 2013

By Tara Stephenson
Pictures by Cara Peterson

Twelve riders and a day among the giant Sequoia's, doesn't get much better than this! Our riders that day were myself, **Jan Doyle, Rick and Patty Perrin** (associates from another unit), **Bob Herrick, Glen Goulart, Janis Barbosa, Kathy Rodhe, Cara Peterson, Randy Weaver, Cindy Schueler and JoAnn Caufield**. After our little education and **Leave No Trace** talk, we were off to the North Boundary Trail.

Now, a back story here. For years, I have been going up there and was never able to do the whole North Boundary Trail due to a bridge that had been "out". So, much of my time riding that trail was just going out to the broken bridge and back (which is still a breath-taking ride). But to my delight, as we approached the area where I was telling the group that we would have to turn around, the broken down bridge had finally been replaced by a beautiful new bridge so we were able to go a bit further on the trail, woo hoo! Now the North Boundary Trail holds no limitations for us! So we did wind up turning back after awhile since it was still pretty early in the year and the rangers had reported to me that there were many HUGE downed trees so instead of going to the unknown, we just headed back to the trailers for a bite to eat.



I personally wanted to show the group one of my favorite trails, the **Azalea Trail** which took us back by the Hot Shot Camp. The firefighters had yet to arrive so we just passed through the camp on our way back to the trailers. After lunch, we headed back out to do some "tourist" stuff, we took the **Sequoia Lake/Dead Giant Loop Trail**. Along the way, we saw the Dead Giant which is an unusually large sequoia which shows signs of a human-caused death. If you look closely, you will find ax marks girdling the tree, severing the cambium

layer. With this living layer cut, nutrients could no longer move up the tree and the giant died. Massive, the bottom part of the tree was as big as a house (well, small house) and it stretched clear across the meadow (the top of the tree actually winds up on another trail that leads up to the Sequoia Lookout). Quite a sight to behold! Then we headed up to the lookout which allows a picturesque view of **Sequoia Lake** (breathtaking as well).

At this time, it was getting later in the day and some of the riders had to get back so as they headed back to the trailers. A few of us decided to head down to the **Sunset Trail**. We never made it to the trail for we were running outta time. We had already been in the saddle for quite some time now. Next time we will for sure ride the Sunset Trail, since it offers such a spectacular view of Ella Falls that is running quite briskly at this time. So back to the trailers, back to reality...but all in all, a great ride, couldn't of asked for better company or riders and made new friends as well.



Beautiful view and fun times.



Yosemite Lakes Park Ride

By Cara Peterson

My Journey to Revis Mountain starts out early as always, picking up my friend Jan Doyle, new member, and her horse Dunny from Exeter . This will make Jan's 4th ride this year! She had just gotten off work at 7:00am from working the night shift as a home health care provider for KDMC. We pick up my horse, Sabin, in Visalia, where I live and board. The morning is perfect as we enter the nice community, and equestrian center, parking just off of the road with lots of action, gas station and hardware store across the street, and riding lessons going on in the arena, young girls with their ponies.

Riders: **Sandy La Spada, Terry Arner, Mary Odell, Cara Peterson, Jan Doyle, Vicky Farabee, Nathalie Agnew, Donna Reiniche, Jeanne Bryson, Bonnie Pearce, Debra Winegarden, Thomas Winegarden, and Linda Franklin.**

So we were in the saddle by 11:00 am, a good time for good times. I received a few comments about me wearing shorts. Everyone was good about warning me of poison oak. Yeh, I didn't get poison oak. Thanks for all of the warnings.

Shortly into our ride, we came to Rattle Snake Rock. A snake was curled up in it's striking position on the left side of the trail. Sandy threw some sticks at it, but it would take more than that for it to budge, so she started throwing rocks at it. It spread out and moved on it's way across the rock. I couldn't see it, but the crowd was roaring at it's size. It was still rattling it's buttons as I passed by. Terry was behind me also trying to pass by when the line came to a sudden stop. Sandy had to quickly get back on her horse because it was getting steep. Tom and Deborah were the last ones to make it past the snake safe and sound. Even so, it didn't keep me from yelling, "Keep Moving".

As we were resting after that first climb, I got to talking with the new trio, Bonnie, Donna, and Jeanne. Jeanne said that she likes adventure and that is why she joined. It's been great having these ladies on the rides. Donna rides a big beautiful Buckskin boy, NO, a MARE! Jeanne and I talked about maybe riding in the parade next year. That would certainly be adventuresome. Hats off to all of this year parade riders!

We ate lunch at the summit with gorgeous views all around. Three hours later, we got back, and kicked back with a soda pop. Sandy took Terry, Mary, Jan and me for another hour ride around the club house lake, right through the sports activities, and by the old Revis tombstone, which has a cute picket fence. Mary Odell is still active clearing trails, only now, in much needed areas closer to home, she refers to as her own back yard. Great having Mary still active with our club. We saw 3 deer 15' away. My horse spooked into the bush. Glad it wasn't poison oak! Thank you Sandy for inviting all of us to ride with you in this spacious non gated, yet private community.



Sandy LaSpada and Jan Doyle



The Shaver Lake Day Use & Campground facility Will be available June - October 2013

The following procedures have been established for the continuity of the facility. When planning a day/camping outing it is necessary to contact one of the members listed below for the gate combination. For security reasons the combination will be changed throughout the season. The camp is available to our Unit members for day use and/or camping with your stock. The camp is set up with three large stock pens and three camp sites offered on a 1st come 1st served basis. The three picnic tables and fire pit are located in a shared area. It is necessary for you to furnish water for personal use and stock use. **The pens must be cleaned of hay/manure after each use or a fee will be assessed for clean up**; remember our “Leave No Trace” policy. There is no potable water on site; however a porta-potty is on site for our human needs.

Fee schedule per membership:
Day Fee \$5 or Camping Fee \$10 per night

For reservations contact:

Wanda Caradonna 559-392-3534 cell

Char Meier 559 297-1290 home 559 905 6948 cell



Kids Corner

Found by Carolyn Witt

We were in Sedona at a horse barn recently and I noticed this on the barn wall right in the center of the breezeway of the horse stalls. I think this is a good lesson for everyone to follow in any situation whether it is in the stables, at school, in the house, or when visiting friends. You might want to copy it and put it on your wall.





WOOOOOO....HOO!! What a great **Desensitization Clinic** at the **Silver Rose Ranch!** On April 13, 2013, 53 people came out to participate in the clinic, including six new members, with beautiful weather to make it a perfect day. **John Mikkelson** set up the course with flares, a search and rescue 'man' - nequin', a blue tarp, whirly birds, a siren, umbrellas, and the most feared and dreaded "pink rabbit". "Pinky" ended up riding around atop horses heads by the end of the day. I was very impressed with all the riders and the way they handled the course. Everyone practiced safely and there were ZERO incidents, truly making it a perfect day. Some horses looked over the course with a yawn, others were somewhat challenged, and some were quite nervous, all settled by the end of the clinic. **Toby and Katie Horst** brought their sound system



Peter Parkin brought lots of balloons for us to place around the arena. We especially thank **Carol Patterson** for again loaning us her lovely **Silver Rose Ranch**. We couldn't ask for a better venue for our clinic, with the arena far enough away to not interfere with her boarders

Some nice letters came in the next day:

"Dear Jan & John,

I just wanted you two to know that I think you guys are awesome. Even though I am a fairly new member to BCHC I know it takes people like you to make things happen for everyone. I admired all the effort and energy you guys put forth today in helping all the horses and riders in the desensitizing clinic. Mike and I are looking forward to future events and rides with you and all the BCHC members.

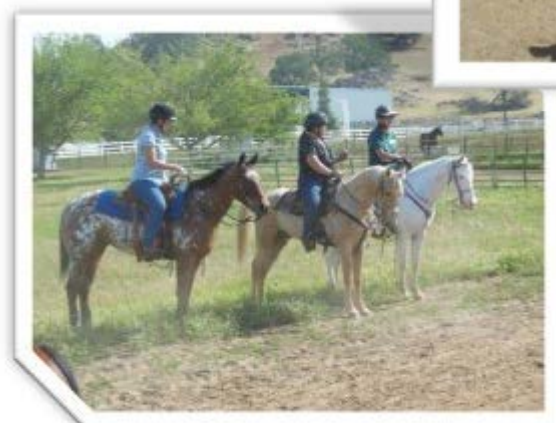
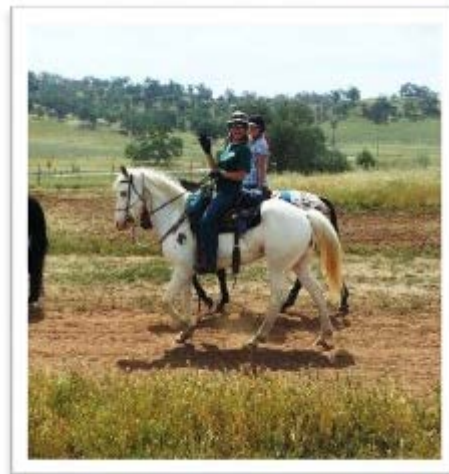
Sincerely, Joanne Caffrey "

"Jan,

I just wanted to drop you a huge thank you note! I really enjoyed the day yesterday. The clinic was great, Remedy learned a lot and we did indeed have a lot of fun. Thank you and the good folk of the San Joaquin unit, and the ranch owners (a great facility) very very much. I can hardly wait until next year!

Sincerely,

Sharon Seslowe"



Clovis Rodeo Parade April 27, 2013

By Jan Mikkelson
Pictures by William Peverill



Our Parade was a huge success and one of the largest we've seen in awhile! We had 23 riders and lots of helpers who got up early to help. **Toby and Katie** packed the mules and helped with the blankets and sign-in sheets. Thanks so much to all of you who made this possible. We got our shirts and scarves in the nick of time so those who wanted the BCHC logos were able to get them at the last minute, thanks to **Peter Parkin**.

Everyone looked awesome in their shirts, scarves and matching saddle blankets and Toby and Katie always add the finishing touches with their pack string of mules. This is always a delight to the judges and on-lookers. We came in at Second Place this year!

We had about 27 people including helpers and riders. They were **John and myself, Mary Odell, Sandy LaSpada, Janis Barbosa, Peter Parkin, Joe and Carol Kaminski, Randy Witt, Garney Meadows, Art Riesgo, Becky Balestreri, Wendy Garza, Donna Reiniche, Bonnie Pearce, Cara Peterson, Bob Herrick, Jim Dixon, Katie and Toby Horst, Debbie and Becca Davis**. Helpers were **Duane and Pat Peverill, Paul LaSpada, Gary Chrisman, Debbie McDougald, Muriel and Bill Holland**.

Good job to all, and it was great so many came for a show of club unification. May the force be with us for many years to come!



Second Place Award goes to BCHC-San Joaquin Sierra Unit



Ann Pierce and Donna Quiggly Reiniche



John and Jan Mikkelson



Randy Witt and Pete Parkin



Garney Meadows



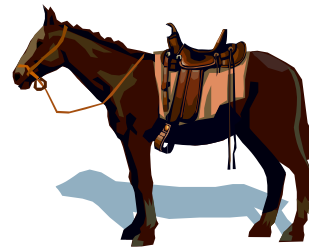
Toby and Katie Horst and their mule train



Sandy LaSpada and Mary Odell



Rides by Tara June and July



June 1st – General Grant’s Grove- In the saddle, ready to ride at 11 am – Riding the trails around the General Grant’s Grove area, always a fun ride. Always a different trail to take. Not for green horses or riders! Some cliffy area, bridge and water crossings. Some of the trails will require some climbing so horse MUST be in shape. On these trails, we might encounter bear, deer, hikers, Hot Shot Crew members, etc. Bring lunch, might eat out on trail, just depends on what direction we head off too. There will be a lot of these rides all summer long and space is limited to 8 riders a ride so let’s take turns on these rides, maybe go one time, wait a few rides then go on another, catch my drift? Please RSVP to Tara1Stephenson@aol.com or 559-977-2766 by May 29th and don’t hesitate to call even if you have done the ride the week or so before, we might have room or put you on a “waiting list” and again, please DO NOT RSVP if you are not going to be able to make it so that we don’t hold a place for you that would prevent someone else from attending. Thank you so much for your cooperation and understanding.

June 15th – General Grant’s Grove- In the saddle, ready to ride at 11 am – Riding the trails around the General Grant’s Grove area, always a fun ride. Always a different trail to take. Not for green horses or riders! Some cliffy area, bridge and water crossings. Some of the trails will require some climbing so horse MUST be in shape. On these trails, we might encounter bear, deer, hikers, Hot Shot Crew members, etc. Bring lunch, might eat out on trail, just depends on what direction we head off too. There will be a lot of these rides all summer long and space is limited to 8 riders a ride so let’s take turns on these rides, maybe go one time, wait a few rides then go on another, catch my drift? Please RSVP to Tara1Stephenson@aol.com or 559-977-2766 by June 12 and don’t hesitate to call even if you have done the ride the week or so before, we might have room or put you on a “waiting list” and again, please DO NOT RSVP if you are not going to be able to make it so that we don’t hold a place for you that would prevent someone else from attending. Thank you so much for your cooperation and understanding.

June 22nd – General Grant’s Grove- In the saddle, ready to ride at 11 am – Riding the trails around the General Grant’s Grove area, always a fun ride. Always a different trail to take. Not for green horses or riders! Some cliffy area, bridge and water crossings. Some of the trails will require some climbing so horse MUST be in shape. On these trails, we might encounter bear, deer, hikers, Hot Shot Crew members, etc. Bring lunch, might eat out on trail, just depends on what direction we head off too. There will be a lot of these rides all summer long and space is limited to 8 riders a ride so let’s take turns on these rides, maybe go one time, wait a few rides then go on another, catch my drift? Please RSVP to Tara1Stephenson@aol.com or 559-977-2766 by June 19 and don’t hesitate to call even if you have done the ride the week or so before, we might have room or put you on a “waiting list” and again, please DO NOT RSVP if you are not going to be able to make it so that we don’t hold a place for you that would prevent someone else from attending. Thank you so much for your cooperation and understanding.

June 29th – General Grant’s Grove- In the saddle, ready to ride at 11 am – Riding the trails around the General Grant’s Grove area, always a fun ride. Always a different trail to take. Not for green horses or riders! Some cliffy area, bridge and water crossings. Some of the trails will require some climbing so horse MUST be in shape. On these trails, we might encounter bear, deer, hikers, Hot Shot Crew members, etc. Bring lunch, might eat out on trail, just depends on what direction we head off too. There will be a lot of these rides all summer long and space is limited to 8 riders a ride so let’s take turns on these rides, maybe go one time, wait a few rides then go on another, catch my drift? Please RSVP to Tara1Stephenson@aol.com or 559-977-2766 by June 26 and don’t hesitate to call even if you have done the ride the week or so before, we might have room or put you on a “waiting list” and again, please DO NOT RSVP if you are not going to be able to make it so that we don’t hold a place for you that would prevent someone else from attending. Thank you so much for your cooperation and understanding.

More rides to be added throughout the months, check our website calendar.

Tara has some fancy new headgear, a camera on her helmet. Cool!



SUCCESSFUL JOSE BASIN RIDE

By Katy Horst and Pictures by Heidi Lofgren

We had another year of sharing this great area with people that had not ridden here before. When we arrived the green grass was two foot high and just like a welcome mat. With the recent rains we had in the foothills, the ground was damp, just perfect for trail rides.

A small group saddled up and rode on Friday, May 11th, to check out the water level in the creeks. They found the creeks were not too high to cross so decided to take a head count of where we wanted to ride for the day. Since we were probably going to ride the creek crossing on Saturday, we turned around and went up the main Music Rch. Road for a couple of hours but then ended up more like three hours. There were 5 of us, **Carol & Joe Kaminski, Muriel Holland, and Toby & Katie Horst**. The stock got a lot of good exercise and had a great time of packing and road riding.



On Saturday, we had another great ride, after the packing clinic with many participants. The group, now 12 people, broke out in two groups, one for single riders and one for ponying pack stock and horses. No dust at all and the water crossing were easy. The group consisted of **Toby & Katie Horst, Muriel Holland, Carol & Joe Kaminski, Peter & J C Parkin, Art Riesgo, Becky Balistier, Debra McFarren and Bob and Heidi Lofgren**. Each group had their experiences and enjoyed the no dust riding and green hills.

After the rides, we all sat around and shared the cool, under the trees, discussing what the past year had brought. With Mothers Day on Sunday, we lost two participants on Saturday night after our great potluck cook out. On Sunday, several rode and after that headed home. It was so great that two couples stayed and rode on Monday. Though the number of riders was small this year, the weather and recent rains made for an outstanding experience.





San Joaquin Sierra Unit



Come and enjoy Horse Camping at the Oak Group Horse Camp at

Montana De Oro State Park

The park's name, "Mountain of Gold," comes from the golden wildflowers that bloom in spring. The Park features over 8,000 acres of rugged cliffs, secluded sandy beaches, coastal plains, streams, canyons, and hills, including 1,347-foot Valencia Peak. No dogs are allowed on trails.

July 12, 13, & 14, 2013

There are miles of horse trails along the beach and in the foothills for all levels of riding.

We will plan to have a potluck dinner Saturday night.

Cost: Horse and rider for 3 days is \$ 45.00; Additional individuals \$ 3.00

Oak Group Camp has 15 corrals, pit toilets, water for horses only, no showers, and no hook-ups.

Contact Information: Peter Parkin (559) 871-4500

This is a BCHC-SJSU sponsored event and you must be a member of BCHC to attend.

Reservations are limited and will only be taken upon receipt of signed check with reservation form below.

Name		Phone	
Address			Amount
Please make checks payable to BCHC-SJS and mail with completed reservation form to : Pete Parkin 17794 Rodeo Dr. Madera, CA 93638	Number of horses with Rider	@ \$45.00 each	\$
	Additional Person	@ \$3.00	\$
	TOTAL		\$



Saddle Fitting Clinic By Al Gould



Saddle Fitting Clinic – Well this is your “**Roped Reporter**”, **Jim Knabke**, with a few observations on the BCHC clinic held May 4. The facility for the clinic could not have been better, in my estimation. There was a covered arena (with shade for horse and man) and plenty of room to tie your horse and good parking (thanks to Kathy Rhode for arranging the location). Attendance was good with about 20 members and some new members joining in as well.

I guess we all have had a situation where a saddle rubbed a sore spot, slid around, slid back, or just did not fit satisfactorily. Al Gould was our clinic leader. Al is a saddle maker (he has made some beautiful saddles for some of our members). He is also a pretty good story-teller with examples to make a point. More importantly, he also rides, packs, and has roped; so, he has experienced some of the practical issues of saddle fit. Al had a saddle tree with him to show how it fit on the backs of different horses. His goal is to get as many square inches of tree touching the horse's back as possible; so if you have a tree that fits well, then you're off to a good start. So ideally, your saddle should have a lot of contact with your horse's back. However, given that horse confirmation (high withers, no withers, round, slim, fat, skinny, etc.) varies, there are challenges. So what can you do if your saddle fits reasonably well, but there is an area where more contact would be desirable? (If you have very poor contact, you probably need to change your horse or saddle.) You can “**cross-pads**” This entails laying some folded towels across your horse pad just behind the area where contact falls off. It does not take much to get improvement (As Al said, a quarter inch may not seem like a lot, but if it is on the end of your nose, it will be noticed!! The point being that a little bit of cross-padding in right the place can help a lot.)



Here are a few other of Al's gems that I can recall: 1. Pads – wool, felt, cotton – all good; fleecy stuff – avoid. 2. Gravity will take your saddle to the lowest point in your horse's back; if it is sliding back, there is a fit problem. 3. You should sit in the center of your saddle (not jammed against the cantle). 4. The flank cinch should be cinched (snug) or take it off. 5. Your saddle fit and rigging should vary depending on what kind of riding you are doing (roping vs trail riding for example). I am sure I am missing some other gems, but those come to mind now. If you are having any fit problems, ask some of us who were in attendance; we might just be able to pass on some of Al's wisdom. Thanks to all who arranged this event especially Ted Fischer and Kathy Rhode.

The Sunshine Corner

By Becky J. Balistreri

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:



We are always excited to welcome our new members. Remember to invite others you know who enjoy their equine friends and the backcountry to join us too! New members may join at any ride.

Nathalie Agnew, Fresno;
Kelley Jo and Danny Locke, Fresno;
Linda Sadler, Coarsegold;
Colleen and Buzz Hibbard, Clovis;
Tiffany Renna, Clovis;
Bill Smith, Sanger;
Jan Huffman, Squaw Valley;
Kathi Sheehan, Fresno;
Carole and Jerry Hildreth, Tehachapi;
Nathan and Nikki Smith, Tollhouse
Vicky Farabee, Madera

MEMBER NEWS

Linda Knabke is recovering from a broken ankle she sustained by trying to land upright from her horse. We hope she has a quick recovery.

Well wishes and a speedy recovery to Ann Harper Van Zandt who is at the Fresno Regional Medical Center recovering from a horse related injury.

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 happening in your family or know of something happening in another member's family, please send the information to me at beckybala@hotmail.com. I will be more than happy to include the news in the next print of the BCHC San Joaquin Sierra unit newsletter.

Thank you

Wanted

Hello, I rode the entire 1,300+ miles of the Nez Perce Trail in 1994, and am doing it again in 2014. I'm looking for 2 or 3 horses that can hold up to a little packing and a lot of miles. Have one for sale?

Please check me out and contact me.

Facebook page: Nez Perce Trail Ride 2014; or my blog: nezperctrailreride.com (which has an account of my ride in 1994), email me at nezperctrail-ride@gmail.com, or call me at 925-228-5790. Hetty



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
DRE#01338726



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



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 \$13.00

Scarves are a 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 left is BCHC with San Joaquin Sierra Unit under the BCHC. Names added for \$5.00 in a group.

Horse First Aid....

great, informative quick reference \$25.00

Contact: Pete Parkin 559-871-4500 ktzpaw@yahoo.com
&/or look for items at our rides and meetings.

Calling All Back Country Horsemen Members

If you would like to learn how to pony,
Come join us for a day of education and fun



Date: June 8, 2013

Starts: 10:00 am and goes until we are finished

Location: 14572 E. Nees Ave Clovis

Cost: \$10.00 per BCHC Membership

Directions:

Go east on Herndon from Academy (road turns into Madsen).
Drive to Nees and go East (road will turn to the south). Go left at Kinsvater, go to
second drive on right and follow drive to covered arena.

RSVP by June 4th:

Kathy Rohde Ph:559-903-5182 / Email: kathyromanivmules@yahoo.com

Bring your riding horse or mule and another animal you wish to pony.
Don't forget to bring a chair, sack lunch and refreshments. Riders under 18 are re-
quired to wear a helmet due to insurance purposes.

**Sponsored By
Backcountry Horsemen
San Joaquin Sierra Unit**



SHAVER LAKE POKER RIDE

**Saturday
SEPT. 7, 2013**



DESIGN BY: sadlergraphics@st.net

*Buy your \$5.00 poker hand
at the 8:00 a.m. registration.
Ride begins at 9:00 a.m.,
an easy ride about 2-1/2 hours
all on a well marked trail.*

Payoff will be from the net proceeds
of the Poker Hands

– to be split 3 ways:

1/3 High hand

1/3 Low hand

1/3 to San Joaquin Sierra

Backcountry Horseman Unit.



WWW.BCHC.org

• Participants must be at least 21 years to purchase up to 3 poker hands. • Insurance requires riding helmets for youth 17 years and younger and must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. • Water is in short supply - please furnish water for your stock.

Directions: Take Highway 168 east to Shaver Lake. Turn right at Dinkey Creek Road, drive 2.5-miles. Watch for **BCHC Poker Ride** signs. Bring lunch and a chair.

Reservations are limited, hurry to send your non-refundable \$10 pre-registration fee, per rider, by August 24, 2013.

Mail your check to:

BCHC

P.O. Box 25693

FRESNO CA 93729

Please include first/last name, contact phone number, mailing address, email and 2 or 3 horse-bumper pull or gooseneck. A confirmation email will be sent out upon receiving registration information and check.



"WHERE QUALITY AND SERVICE ARE A-1"

BLAKE RICKEN-OWNER

5092 N. ACADEMY 559-322-FEED
CLOVIS, CA 93619 FAX 559-322-8333
A1FEEDSTORE@GMAIL.COM

FEED AND ANIMAL HEALTH SUPPLIES
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

QUESTIONS? Contact **Char Meier**, (559) 297-1290/email: shaverider@aol.com
or **Wanda Caradonna** (559) 392-3534/email: wandacaradonna@sbcglobal.net

**TSC TRACTOR
SUPPLY CO.**
TractorSupply.com

1630 Herndon Ave. at Fowler Ave. • Clovis CA 93611
Phone: 559-298-1496 • Fax: 559-298-1279

Ric Rocco, store Manager

San Joaquin Sierra Unit Board Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2013

Clovis Elks Lodge, 535 Woodworth Ave. Clovis, CA

Call to order: 6:30 by Greg Caradonna

In Attendance:

President: Greg Caradonna Vice President: Joe Kaminski
Treasurer: Pete Parkin Secretary: Cindy Mueller
Directors: Wanda Caradonna, Tara Stephenson, Carol Kaminski, Fredi Chrisman, Ted Fischer,
Advisors: Toby Horst Members: Katie Horst, Jan Mikkelsen, Gary Chrisman, Janis Barbosa, Kathy Rhode, Becky
Balistreiri and Art Riesgo
Not in Attendance: Randy Witt, Cathie Walker

Review and Approval of Minutes:

Minutes were review and corrected, Joe K. made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, seconded by Ted F., motion passed.

Treasurer Report: Period ending 01/2013

YTD Income:	\$ 948.57	General Checking	\$ 17824.12
YTD Expenses:	<u>(475.49)</u>	CD's & Savings	\$ 11280.04
YTD Profit/Loss	\$ 473.08		

New Business: (one topic moved due to time restrictions)

Ponying on the trail: Fredi C. introduced to the board a request to review the guidelines on ponying animals on trail rides. Several members interested in participating in the rides but would like to bring an extra animal were in attendance, so discussion was opened for the modification of the Unit Guidelines. All in attendance voiced their opinions and the subject and the Pro's and Con's were reviewed. After much debate, considering the safety on the trails, Forest Service regulations, and alternative solutions that would satisfy the membership as a whole a final motion was presented.

Motions: Several motions were presented, reviewed, voted and passed. Once the guidelines were written down, the Board decided to amend the motions to the final motion,

"Ponying will be allowed on rides in a two tiered system, single horses up front with the ponied animals in a second unit in the back with separation. The second tier of riders must include a "Clinic Certified" member. The clinic is to be held by members whom the Board deems eligible to have the experience and knowledge to hold the clinic and certify peer members to have the ability to safely control the animals. The Board approved members are: Toby Horst, Joe Kaminski, Kathy Rhode, Gary Chrisman, Katie Horst, and Carol Kaminski." This motion was presented to the table by Cindy Mueller, seconded by Wanda Caradonna. The motion passed with the voting Board and Directors.

The members that have been approved to hold the clinic will be getting together to arrange a date and place.

Committee Reports:

Education: The guest speaker for the March 20th general meeting will be Grant Kennington.
A saddle fitting clinic is being planned. Look for more information to come.

Old Business:

Sunshine Corner: Becky Balistreri will be the new Sunshine Person.

New Business: (continued)

State Board meeting, Joe K. is to look into the sharing the extra days for the Insurance. The Insurance now requires all members under the age of 18 to wear a helmet. The Unit has already adopted this policy so no change needed. Per Chip Herzog, the State is paying for our insurance coverage this year.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Cindy M to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ted F., motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

San Joaquin Sierra Unit Board Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2013

Clovis Elks Lodge, 535 Woodworth Ave. Clovis, CA

Call to order: 6:34 by Greg Caradonna

Additions to New Business: Board Meeting arrangements, Business Cards, Chain Saw purchase.

In Attendance:

President: Greg Caradonna Vice President: Joe Kaminski
Treasurer: Pete Parkin Secretary: Cindy Mueller
Directors: Wanda Caradonna, Cathie Walker, Tara Stephenson, Carol Kaminski, Fredi Chrisman, Ted Fischer,
and Randy Witt
Advisors: Toby Horst Members: Katie Horst, Jan Mikkelson, Carolyn Witt, and Janis Barbosa,

Review and Approval of Minutes:

Minutes held until next meeting.

Treasurer Report: Period ending 01/2013

YTD Income:	\$ 949.26	General Checking	\$ 17497.66
YTD Expenses:	<u>(802.64)</u>	CD's & Savings	\$ 11280.04
YTD Profit/Loss	\$ 146.62		

Committee Reports:

Education: Ted F. is arranging a guest speaker for the May 22nd general meeting.

Membership: Jan M. reported one new member and on renewal.

Newsletter: Carolyn W. reported that Mary Odell won 2nd place at the Rendezvous for the 2012 newsletter. Congratulations Mary, you have taught Carolyn well.

Public Lands: Joe K. has confirmed that our unit, Back Country Horsemen of California, San Joaquin Sierra Unit has officially adopted Chamberlain Meadows. A few members have signed up for the work party. The Four Wheel Drive Club has offered the services of building a bathroom at Chamberlain. The Four Wheel Drive Club will provide the labor and \$1000 towards supplies, our Unit will provide the remaining funds. After discussion with all in attendance, Ted F. made a motion to make available the necessary funds up to \$3000 to complete the bathroom. Fredi C. seconded, motion passed.

Shaver Lake: Opening has been postponed possible reopening 4/30/13.

Rides: May 11th and 12th, Jose Basin hosted by Toby and Katie Horst., May 25th Fish Camp hosted by Tara Stevenson, June 1, 15 and 22 Grant Grove hosted by Tara S.

Pete Parkin has been working on a reservation for Montana De Oro this summer. Pete was able to reserve a camp site for the ride, Joe K. made a motion to reimburse Pete the funds, seconded by Randy W. motion passed.

Old Business:

Parade and Parade Practice: Jan M. reported that she has 14 riders confirmed for the clinic and the parade participation is up this year.

Saddle Fitting Clinic: Will be May 4th with Al Gould. Look for email alert.

New Business

Business Cards: Toby H. and Joe K. will work together to make a universal business card for BCHC-SJSU.

Unit Owned Chain Saw: The idea of purchasing chain saw equipment by the Club for the Club was brought to the Board. Several questions were brought up on storing and maintenance. It is agreed that it's a good idea but more details need to be obtained.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 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 CHAIR**

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
Redhawk Riders
Redwood
San Diego
San Geronimo Pass

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

MAIL TO:
BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN
OF CALIFORNIA
PO BOX 535
BEAUMONT, CA 92223
<http://www.bchcalifornia.org>

Donate to BCHC
Education Fund?
Tax Deductible

Packer \$10.00
Mule Skinner \$25.00
Other (Write in) \$_____

MEMBER'S NAME - Please Print Clearly: _____

SPOUSE/MEMBER'S NAME - MUST SHARE SAME ADDRESS: _____

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

Make Check Payable to: BCHC

CHECK # _____

DATE SUBMITTED: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

PARENT UNIT MEMBERSHIP TYPES: (CIRCLE ONE)

Individual \$45.00*

Family \$55.00*

Benefactor \$100.00

Patron \$250.00

Mt Whitney \$500.00

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)

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:

☐ Individual Membership \$ 45.00
☐ Family (Shared) Membership \$ 55.00
☐ Benefactor Membership \$100.00
☐ Patron Membership \$250.00
☐ Mt Whitney Membership \$500.00
☐ Donation - Packer \$10.00
☐ Mule Skinner \$25.00
☐ Other (Write in) \$_____
☐ Associate Membership \$_____
Total Remittance \$_____
Check Number _____
Date Mailed _____

Verification of BCHC membership is available via (1) BCHC unit president reports (2) BCHC unit membership chair reports (3) provide a stamped self-addressed envelope or (4) provide a valid email address



San Joaquin Sierra Unit

P.O. Box 25693

Fresno, CA 93729-5693

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.