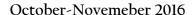


San Joaquin Sierra

Hoof Prints





Issue 5

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

Email— membership@bchcalifornia.org (membership email only).
On the WEB: http://www.bchcsjsu.org (SJS unit) or http://www.bchcalifornia.org (State)



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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall will soon be upon us. If you are planning a trip into the backcountry, as always please be sure to let someone know the area you will be in. Also, this time of year it is extremely important to check weather conditions for the duration of your stay in the backcountry. It's important to be prepared for any conditions as the weather conditions can change quickly without notice. If you plan to ride in the lower elevations be aware of your surroundings as there are many dead and dying trees due to the bark beetle.

Thanks to all who made our **Shaver Poker Ride** such a great success. And thanks also to the many riders who came up to ride and especially to those who joined our unit at the ride. Welcome! In spite of the ride being cut short due to the meat bees in the ground, a good time seemed to be had by all. We are considering the possibility of moving the ride to Tamarack so we can include overnight camping and offer new trails.

October is shaping up to be a busy month. With a new ride was added to the calendar at the **San Joaquin Gorge** the first Saturday of the month. **The State Board Meeting** is October 8th and the election ride at the **Riddle Ranch** is October 15th. A big thanks to those who are willing to put their names on the ballot to serve as possible board members. If you or someone you know would be willing to add your name it is not to late to get on the ballot for any position.

Coming up in November, we will once again be hosting **Trail Trials at the Riddle Ranch**. A big thank you in advance to **Riddle Ranch and Cal Gomes** for all the time and effort that goes into preparing for an event like this.

For those of you who missed our General meeting in August, you really missed out. We were blessed with wonderful weather, fabulous music from our own **Ron**

Jefferson and a never ending potluck with toooooo much great food.

Remember stay in the saddle, the ground is hard.

Joe Kaminski President



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2016 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).

<u>Calendar & Ride schedule is on-going, and new events and rides will be published when confirmed.</u> Note: Dates and events are subject to change or cancellation; <u>calling the contact person is recommended</u> or checking **www.bchcsjsu.org**

October 1 San Joaquin River Gorge Ride, Cara Peterson (559) 901-5364, email: carasblue

print@sbcglobal.net

October 15 General Meeting Riddle Ranch Ride and Election, Cathy Walker 559-283-1164

November 12 Trail Trials at the Riddle Ranch, Cathy Walker 559-283-1164

December 10 Christmas Party Need Co-Chairs Contact Any Board Member

Please contact any Board Member or Ted Fischer (559-855-8599), if you would like to host a ride or activity.

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.



The year is coming to an end and the Officers/Directors will be reviewing and creating the next year's activity calendar. Please review this year's calendar at www.bchcsjsu.org, and let uss know if there are any other activities that you would like added to the calendar. Also is there any activity that you would like to sponsor? We are always looking to improve the club and making it fun for all members. Please submit your ideas, wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net. You may call 559-908-3138 and I will get back to you.

Thank you for your time and let's all make next year a BANNER YEAR!

William Duane Peverill Vice President BCHCSJSU

BCHC Tamarack Camp And Ride

Aug. 12th – Aug.14th, 2016 By Cara Peterson

My first BCHC club ride a few years back was at Tamarack. **John Mikkelson** was our trail boss and we rode the Meadow Trail. I have several memories from that ride. There were a dozen beautiful horses, about 9 of them gaited. All of them were amped up as we took a short-cut from camp to find the Meadow Trail, which is a beautiful place with creek and bridges to cross. By the end of the ride my horse Dunny was loping in place. He thought he was gaited too! I have told that story several times, but I never rode the Meadow Trail at Tamarack again until last weekend. Once again John Mikkelson was trail boss. I am very grateful to him and Cowboy. In front were **Jan Mikkelson** and **Jesse**. **Snip** and I hung out a bit with them. Jesse liked Snip LOL. Also along for horse/mule camp and ride were: **Debbie McFarran**, **Jim Dixon**, **Joe and Carol Kaminski**, **William and Pat Pever-ill**.

We had a propane fire at night and morning. Very pleasing to the eyes, no smoke, adjustable flames and warm to sit by. Thanks Joe and Duane.

We had the trails to ourselves except for skittish deer and cattle. The trees in this area are very green! The mornings were cold but not frosty. There are many trails to explore, including the look out, which was visited twice this trip. Be sure to check out the photos on our club web site. Search BCHC California, click BCHC Home, Local Units, click on map, click San Joaquin Sierra, Photo, 2016, and right click on picture, save image as. What a great way to share pictures. We appreciate **William Peverill** maintaining our website.











My trip to Big Meadows, 2016 By Jesse James Mikkelson

Mom asked me to write about Big Meadows this year. My name is Jacky B "The Kid", but, as my reputation precedes me, I'm known as **Jesse James Mikkelson**.

Last year because of the Rough Fire, we weren't able to go to Horse Camp and I was really disappointed. We were all really glad to come up

this year and I also got to have my best friend, Cowboy, come with me. It's always more fun and I don't get lonely when he is right next to me.

We stayed for the whole week, which was a real treat. I watched **Joe and Carol Kaminiski**, **Fredi Chrisman**, **mom and dad (aka John and Jan Mikkelson)**, and **Pete Parkin** clean up all the corrals and camp to make it look clean as a whistle. Every day I would see Peter walk by me with his bucket and mop to clean the bathroom. I heard the humans say that is the arrangement with the Forest Service so we can keep the horse camp without it being taken over by a concession company. That worries me because Horse Camp is a special place.

Things were so nice this year and I smelled lots of cooking going on and every night there was a "fake" propane fire with everyone sitting around it. Kind of funny, but they seemed to like it just fine. One day we went to Buck Rock and I did some showing off when about 12 nice young men came over and talked to mom and dad. They thought I was cute...contrary to popular belief. Of course I think I am cute, too. Joe got a new mule from Yosemite. He is older than me, but you would never know it. Everyone knows I am not fond of mules, but he was pretty cool. One thing I established right away though...I like to be in front...or else!

Dan Baumgardner came up and rode with mom and dad. We had a nice walk around the meadow that mom, dad, Pete, and Carol marked to help others not get all scratched up. **Jim and Linda Knabke** came up with their grandson, **Easton**. He was pretty cute and I liked hearing the voice of a little kid and watching him run around. They all went out riding and Easton had fun. **Ed and Mollie Fitzpatrick, Gary and Sue Van Sickle** came for a night and **Cara Peterson** came up the last two days and brought my new BFF Snip. He and I get along really well.

Saturday night the humans had their pot-luck dinner. **Ron Jefferson** arrived with his guitar again this year! It was so fun to hear music in camp and he played a lot of new songs I'd never heard before. Then I heard mom sing... that was pretty neat...I love my mom.(**AKA Jan Mikkelson**)

I hope Horse Camp at Big Meadows stays the way it is. I can't imagine not being able to go there and enjoy my own pen. After seeing the crowds of humans this week and the disregard for the beautiful mountains, I know they

would not appreciate all the work that has been invested through the years in this wonderful site.

One thing I have to say... never in the years that we have been going to horse camp have we seen so many "Charmin weeds" all along the trail and the road and no one botheres to even cover it up. Huh...and they get after us for manure? No comparison!

Until next year... Happy Trails Jesse James









Riddle Ranch Ride And Election Meeting

San Joaquin Sierra Unit Elections and General Meeting October 15, 2016

Ride as you wish starting at 10:00AM

Lunch served starting at noon.

Meeting and Elections for the 2017 Officers and Board will start once everyone has received their lunch.

After the meeting you may enjoy another ride or visit with your friends.

Lunch will be prepared by the **Galloping Gourmets**(Cathie Walker, Peggy Riddle, Cindy Mueller and the newest member Jessica Pratt, 4 generations of cooks!)

Members are asked to bring "starters" A-N, and desserts O-Z.

If you have any questions on what to bring, call Cathie. 559-283-1164

Water will be provided for you and your horses.

Please bring your bucket for your horse.

Please bring your own chairs, tables are optional.

The ride is located at 15056 Johnson Drive, Orosi CA Please RSVP by October 15, 2014 Cathie Walker (559) 283-1164

Please call or email Cathy for directions



The "Oh, My Gosh!" Edison Work Party Trip

By Diana (& Paul Sorensen)

For those of you who have been there and done this trip, you're certainly welcome to laugh with (or at) this newbie who couldn't help but say, "Oh, my gosh!" at least 5 times a day. In fact, I uttered my first big OMG before we even started when our horse 'Blue' got colic while we overnighted at the Shaver Horse Camp. Two visits later by local Shaver vet, Dr. Heistand, we were able to meet-up with the rest of the crew in the nick of time at the Eastwood Visitor Center just past Huntington Lake. Waiting for us were our fellow travelers Joe & Carol Kaminski, Sandy La Spada, Bob Skinner, Duane & Pat Peverill, Debra McFarren, Steve Naylon, and Peter Parkin rolled in just in time to join the procession.

As we pulled into the lot, I gasped my 2nd major "OMG" in disbelief. (Bad sign.) We appeared to be the only gooseneck going into what we already knew could be a dicey road when towing a rig. That's why **Muriel Holland** and **Rick** drove a pilot car. They are my heroes for doing such a great job! Turns out you can lose a running board or fender on that road so the preference, with good reason, is for towing 2 horse bumper pull trailers. My solace came when I realized we were towards the front



of the parade and I reasoned that no one could get past us if we got hung up on a boulder or our wheels dangled over an edge.



The road had several more "OMG" moments for me, personally (I'm afraid of heights). It was uneventful for the pilot car and her 8 rigs. I was confused by the boys to the left, girls to the right instructions at our rest stop and had to ask and am still not sure if that was a joke. "OMG", I'm slower than a banana slug taking a nap.

Upon arriving at the **High Sierra Pack Station**, we met up with **Randy Witt** who helped us settle our rigs and horses. Randy had arrived sometime previously to

work his mules and did a nice job finding spots for all the rigs.

On Monday, **Ruth** lead in **Jim Knabke, Jim Dixon, and Warner** who arrived and joined in our daily work and recon crews.

Over the days, many "OMG" moments arose and were not as dramatic as the first few, but equally memorable just the same:

OMG: Watching **Bob Skinner** work his magic sawyer routine. Bob used his never ending supply of patience, wisdom, and knowledge to teach us the ways of trees, logs, and safety. He is a vast encyclopedia of forestry and wilderness information, not to mention his entertaining side stories.

OMG: The size of the trees we worked on. Some were huge, up to 36" diameter. Paul and Carol competed to see what was more accurate, his palm or her tape measure!

OMG: The aroma of pine in the forest was exquisite.

OMG: The time the mule hit her pack on a tree and decided to unload the equipment through the forest causing Steve's horse to put on a show of its own. That one is vivid in my memory.

OMG: Breakfast and dinner prepared mostly by Joe and Carol with help from others. How do they do that and make it look so easy and taste so good?

OMG: I'm not sure how many miles of trail we reconned or how many trees we cut, lopped, snipped or removed from the trail but it was so many that Duane started a rumor that Cyndy "Lopper" was with us!

OMG: I think our biggest accomplishment was removing a section of tree from near the end of the bridge leading to the Goodale Pass trail. It was just a short distance from the pack station but it took parts of 3 different days to finish. After the first 2 days we worked on it, we thought we had done a great job. But, alas, the forest ranger asked us to widen the opening due to the configuration of the trail and a large boulder at the end of the bridge. So, back we went and ended up making a 28' wide opening removing the tree in sections. And, "OMG", how pleasing it was to see hikers go through not long after we finished.

We also had a visit from Katie Horst and her son Fred one evening, a nice fire every night, great coffee every morning, and amazing hosts John and Jenise Cunningham.

One last thing. When we left the pack station for home at 8 AM Friday morning it was 37 degrees. When Paul and I arrived home in the Creston area late afternoon, it was 102!!! OMG!!!



Shaver Lake Poker Ride By Carol Kaminski

The ride actually started on Friday with **Jim Dixon**, **Pat and Duane Peverill** marking out the trail and setting bags with cards for Saturday's event. Due to many bee nests in the ground, the trail had to be shortened and moved to prevent possible stings.

Saturday, rigs started pulling in and were met by **Randy Witt and Ted Fischer** and shown to parking areas. Riders then were directed to sign in where Debbie Dixon took care of registration with her supporting cast **of Katie Horst and Fredi Chrisman.** While checking out raffle prizes riders were greeted with coffee, coffee cake, and biscuits and gravy. We had about 30 riders on a gorgeous day, clear skies, and perfect weather.

After the ride there was deep pit bbq with homemade salads, cookies, lemonade and tea. Then it was time for raffle and poker hands. How pleased we were to have about seven of the riders join our unit at the end of the day. A good time appeared to have been had by all as many stayed around to visit and share stories. Ever faithful **Pete and J.C. Parkin** once again filled in the gaps and made themselves available to see things ran smooth. Thanks to all who helped to put on this event and thanks to all who participated and made this such a successful ride.







Sunshine Corral

By Patricia Peverill



Greetings from the Sunshine Corral.

Hoping your rides are plentiful and safe!

Howdy and Welcome to Our New Members

ı	Gary & Elissa Williams	San Miguel	Rhonda Beebe and Jim Harvey	Clovis
١	Heidi Rompparen	San Martin	Wanda and Terri Brill	Clovis
١	Jeff & Mary Jane Bargas	Madera	Mike Congdon	Fresno
ı	Tamila Kelly	Madera	Linette and Steve Elkins	Madera
١	Richard Hall	Clovis	Nancy Kanta	Fresno
١	Tracy Knepper	Sanger	James Laber	Visalia
١	Doug Laber	Visalia		

BIG THANK-YOU For Big Meadows Donations

Mike Dunne Winston & Jolene Kasparian
Deborah Condon Rusty & Bill Sporleder
John & Jean Cyran Karl & Trish Pendergraft
Heidi Furer Richard & Sheila Roberts

Scott Rogers James Laber

Fredi Chrismann

Thank You

Cara Peterson for Hosting Tamarack Camping Ride

Sympathy

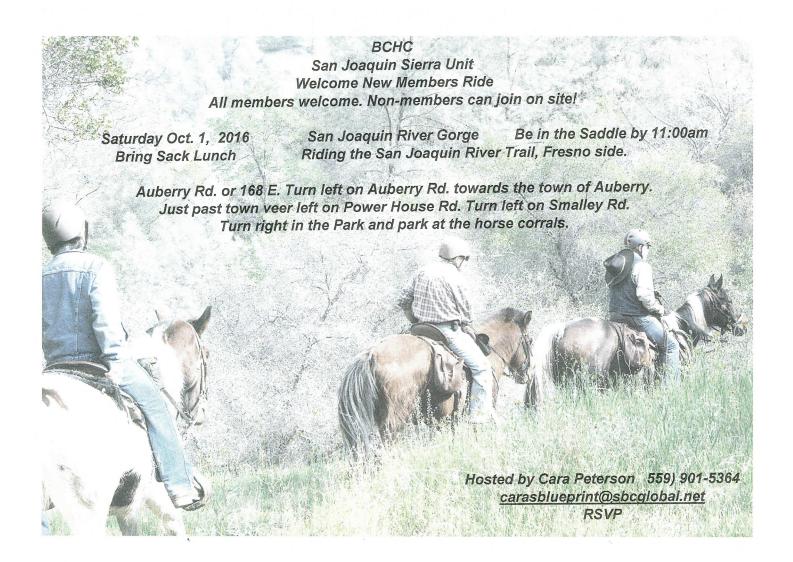
Debbie McFarren on loss of her Brother-in-Law

2017 BCHC CALENDARS

We still have a number of **2017 BCHC Calendars** for sale from our state BCHC to sell. If every member buys just **ONE** calendar, we will be able to fulfill our obligation to the state.

Please call Peter Parkin or email him if you can help. 559-871-4500 or ktzpaw@yahoo.com





Peter Parkin's Pipeline



For you, camping is a way to escape the drudgery of the 9-to-5 grind. What is camping without a campfire. But in todays time of drought and High Fire Conditions campfires are banned. With Campfire In A Can's Portable Propane Campfire, you'll be roasting marshmallows and scarfing down s'mores. Compact, clean burning, easy to light, and no going to bed smelling like smoke this propane campfire can even be hooked right into your RV. Best of all, it's Fire Banned Approved! On several occasions we have had Rangers stop by and comment on our use of Campfire in a Can. They highly recommend the us of one of these devices over a real campfire. They are many

brands and styles and prices, out there for you to chose from. Remember fire safety is everyone's responsibility. Happy Trails.

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,

John Mikkelson and Greg Caradonna

Past Presidents



www.bchcsjsu.org

Make sure you check out our website for updates on the Home page, Calendar page, and Newsletters. We also have a Photos page of our latest activities.

If you have any photos send them to **Duane** at wpeverill@sebastioncorp.net.

www.bchcsjsu.org

BCHC 2017 CALENDARS ARE ON SALE NOW

Now is a great time to get yourself a BCHC 2016, very lucky **CALENDAR!**

If you would like to obtain or help sell these calendars, contact any Board Member or Officer listed in this newsletter. Great Christmas gift plus helping your unit!! Call Freddi Chrisman 559-876-2416.

Advertising Rates

Classified Ads

1/4 page, \$20.00,

\$.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, 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



180 W. Bullard Ave. Clovis. CA 93612

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



"Idon't Horse: around when it comes to selling your property"

"Travel Advantage"

Dear BCHC Members

Check out the latest edition of "Travel Advantage", @

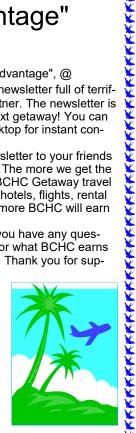
<u>www.ytbtravel.com/bchc</u> a travel newsletter full of terrific deals from YTB, our BCHC travel partner. The newsletter is chock full of great ideas for anyone's next getaway! You can download an icon to your computer desktop for instant connection to the BCHC Getaway website.

Please forward "Travel Advantage" newsletter to your friends

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



SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA UNIT

Board Meeting Wednesday July 6, 2016 Location: Elks Lodge, Clovis, California

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Roll taken: President: Joe Kaminski Vice President: Duane Peverill Secretary: Fredi Chrisman Treasurer:Peter Parkin

Director:, Carol Kaminski, Debra McFarren,, Ted Fischer, Randy and Carolyn Witt, Jan Mikkelson,

Pat Peverill Guest: Gary Van Sickle

Additions to Agenda: Pete and Duane regarding CSUF Pack Team Minutes Review and Approve. Minutes were reviewed and approved

Treasurer Report & Budget: YTD Income: \$7025.44 YTD Expense: \$4739.20 YTD Profit(loss): \$286.16

General Checking: \$19819.79 CD's & Savings: 11,341.67 Petty Cash: \$50

Committee Reports:

Education: Ted report on First Aide and CPR class- do we need one? There was discussion on who could give the class within the club membership. Tandy asked about sawyer certificates. None at this time.

Membership: Jan, 1 new member joined

Newsletter. Carolyn, reports due by July 24th. She asked different members for reports

Public Land. Joe said Edison a lot of work was done. Chamberlaine, table was built of logs-Carol, Pete, Joe and Ed of 4-wheel Drive club and his son helped. No grazing until July 115th. Crown Valleey July 17-23, Full crew.

Big Meadows is August 25-28 with General Meeting August 27th with Ron Jefferson providing music, also potluck

Sunshine Corner: Pat said thank yous sent for \$500 to Mounted Police Patrol, Get Well to Dr. Stabbie, Winston Kasparian, and Debbie Davis, Char for her dog. Knabke family wedding.

Shaver Lake. Open

Old Business:

2016 Events

- 1. Shave Lake Poker Ride, Discussion on flyer, entry fees, menu, raffle prizes.
- 2. Tamarack Ride in August 12-14, Cara Peterson
- 3. Nov. 12 Trail Trials

Big Meadows: BCHC cards to Pat Plum to hand out to campers. Forest Service pumped the outhouse because of the public usage. The Pendergrass donated equipment for the camp.

Debbie as chairperson for table decorations for next year Rendezvous, asked for help in this appointment. Motion to approve Duane, second Pat.

New Business: None

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM. Motioned Freddie Second Carol

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA

San Joaquin Sierra Unit

Board Meeting Wednesday August 3, 2016 Location: Elks Lodge, Clovis, California

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Roll taken: President: Joe Kaminski Vice President: Duane Peverill Secretary: Fredi Chrisman Treasurer:Peter Parkin Director:, Carol Kaminski, Debra McFarren,, Ted Fischer, Randy and Carolyn Witt, Jan Mikkelson, Wanda Caradonna Pat Peverill Guest: Par Plume,

Additions to Agenda: None

Minutes Review and Approve. Minutes were reviewed and approved by Ted F. and seconded by Duane P. Treasurer Report & Budget: YTD Income: \$7968.79 YTD Expense: \$5460.86 YTD Profit(loss): \$2507.93 General Checking: \$20038.21 CD's & Savings: 11,345.02 Petty Cash: \$50

Committee Reports:

Education: Ted received First Aide kit for Club outings and saw certification classes. Certification approval of chain saw classes for own members. A & B buckers only cards. Wildeness Steward Plan/environmental impact meetings to be held in Oakhurst Aug. 18, 2016. BCHC needs to attend to get on the record for Yosemite Park, stock use.

Membership: Jan, 1 new member joined

Newsletter. Carolyn, reports due by September 20th. She asked different members for reports

Public Land. Joe said Bob skinner thanked us for BCHC newsletter on his Volunteer work with our unit. Crown Valley trail is now open—a lot of trees down. Big Meadows: work party Aug. 21-23 and fun rides Aug. 24-27. General Meeting Sat Aug. 27, Pot Luck and Ron Jefferson will provide music.

Sunshine Corner: Pat said Get Well to Steve Naylon, he fell off his horse. Thank yours for Big Meadow donations and usage.

Shaver Lake. Open

Old Business: 2016 Events

- 1. RSVP for Tamarack Ride.
- 2. Poker Ride sept. 10
- 3. Election Ride Oct. 15
- 4. Nov. 12 Trail Trials

Big Meadows: Pat Plum: Heavy usage to the restroom, camp occupied most of the season, she recommends maintenance for right after Memorial weekend. Maybe more tables and move bins to the back, off the road.

Cook trailer discussion on wrap and/or new decal also cover for trailer.

Pat P. and others stated thank yous to Pat Plume for her hostess most of the season at Big Meadows for our first season.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM. Motioned Duane Second Debra M.

You can go to BCHCalifornia.org to become a member or fill out this form and send it in.

Backcountry Horsemen of California	The state of		estani	MAIL TO: BCHC Me 1280 State				
MEMBERSHIP		Ministry.	and the second	Yerington	NV 89447			
APPLICATION	PARENT Unit Affiliation: (Select and CHECK a Unit as your Affiliation) Antelope Valley Kern Sierra North Bay San Gogo nio Pass Sierra Preepackers							
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	High Country	_	Redwood	Santa Ana River				
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Total Enclosed: \$			Check No					
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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.