



San Joaquin Sierra

Hoof Prints



October-November 2015

Issue 6

San Joaquin Sierra Unit, BCHC
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Email- membership@bchcalifornia.org (membership email only).
On the WEB: <http://www.bchcsjsu.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

As usual summer has come to an end, oh so soon. This year especially with the Rough Fire bringing the season to an abrupt end. However, we still managed to sneak in one last trip with the annual **Poker Ride at Shaver Lake**. This was bitter sweet as we missed out on the work party and ride at Big Meadows. We were fortunate also to have **Fredi Chrisman** step in and open up her home for the **August General Meeting**. A special thanks goes out to **Ron Jefferson** and his faithful guitar for entertaining us for the evening.



Be Safe
 and enjoy the
 cool weather

The riding season is far from over as we still have more to come. In October we will once again have opportunity to ride the **Riddle Ranch** at the election ride. The ranch will once again be offered in November for our **Second Trail Trials**. December will once again bring our annual **Christmas Party** with great food and socializing. What a great time to catch up.

As always we hope there is something for everyone. If there is an event you would like to host just let a board member know. Also if you are interested in working on the trail trials or the Christmas party, again just let a board member know.

Please remember whether in the wilderness or at a trail head the **Leave No Trace** policy. Always fill in holes and scatter or remove manure piles.

As always stay in the saddle, the ground is hard.

Joe Kaminski, President



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2015 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.bchcsjsu.org*

901-5364 call and messaging.
Email: carasblueprint@sbcglobal.net

October 17 General Meeting Riddle Ranch Ride and Elections (see flyer on page 7)
Cathy Walker 559-283-1164

November 14 Trail Trials
Cindy Mueller at chipzipnappy@aol.com
Cathy Walker and Peggy Riddle 559-283-1164
walker1486@comcast.net

December 12 Christmas Party
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.

BCHC 2016 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!!

Our Shaver Lake Day Use & Campground Will be available June– October 2015

Hey wrangler's our Temporary Permit with Edison ends October 31st there is still time to camp. Please contact me if you are interested. Information regarding date in October to close the camp will be forthcoming. The following procedures have been established for the continued use of the facility. When planning a day/camping outing it is necessary to contact the member 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 port-a-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

Shoes to Barefoot Clinic

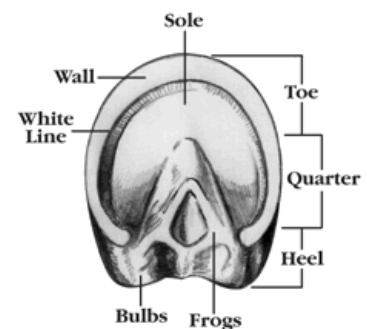
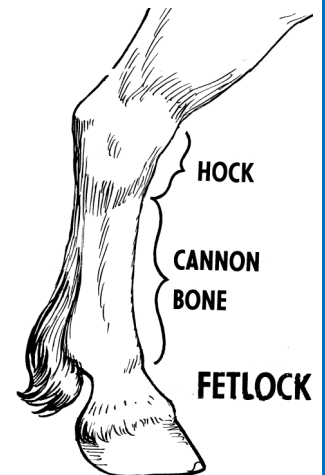
Where: Coffman Ranch, Clovis
When: November 4th, 2015, 1 day
Cost: \$150, no charge for horse

Contact Carla Hawks at 559-916-0495 cell

Availability: 3 horses and 4 people
This will be a small clinic format with a total of 12 people and 6 horses and with lots of time for questions and answers. The focus will be on helping horses that are not right for one reason or another.

This is a great opportunity for someone considering transition from shoes to barefoot and hoof boots.

Kind regards,
Carla Hawks



KIDS CORNER

Here are two of our BCHC youths that are beginning their love of horses and backcountry work at an early age. They are continuing BCHC legacy of good horsemanship, being good stewards of our forests, learning about **Leave No Trace**, and fostering personal relationships with their horse. Congratulations and thank you to both these young ladies. If there are any other members who would like to let us know about what their young one has done please send them to the Editor, Carolyn Witt. cawittbchc@hotmail.com

4-H Fun at the Madera Fair

by Sandra La Spada

As a few of you know, I am the Coarsegold 4-H horse group leader and my daughter, **Abigail La Spada** is a 4-H horse group member in her second year. Abigail competed in the Madera Fair Horse Show on August 29th and 30th. She competed in both gymkhana and English riding classes on Pokey the 6 year old appaloosa horse. She earned three 6th place ribbons in the gymkhana competition (Pokey truly is a bit pokey). In English, Abigail received 6th in equitation, 5th in horsemanship, 3rd in showmanship, 2nd in pleasure, and 1st in hunter hack. Our big group of Coarsegold friends from 4-H and FFA provided a huge cheering section for her and I was bursting with pride for my girls. Just two months before this show Abigail was struggling to get Pokey to maintain the canter in the arena, but now she canters up trails and over small jumps. They are an amazing team who now may be able to go to the state 4-H show in Sacramento next year. Look for them out on the trails. You can't miss that blonde girl on the spotted horse!

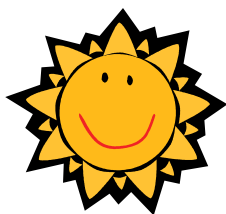


Abigail, Pokey and mom enjoying the outdoors together.

Congratulations to **Jaedyn Traeger**, granddaughter of Joe and Carol Kaminski who won Tulare County 4-H Horse Achievement Reserve Grand Champion. This was her first year in 4-H. She received 100% on her written test. Congratulations Jaedyn. We are so proud of you. Your hard work really paid off.

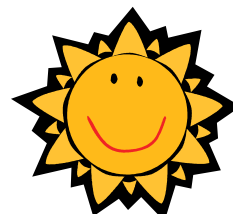


Jaedyn and Grandma Carol having a wonderful riding day.



Sunshine Corral

By
Patricia Peverill



Welcome and Happy Trails to our new members!!!

Gary & Elissa Williams-San Miguel
Belinda Dominguez
Brandie Montgomery and Pat Plume

Our Sympathy goes out to Greg & Wanda Cardonna for the loss of Greg's Mom.
Sympathy to Dian Dolby for loss of her husband Kenneth

Thank You to **Bob Schower** for hauling Bear boxes in his jeep.
Thank You to **Mike Singleton** for Halter donations.
Thank You to **Bob Herrick** for Bear Box hauling on his mules.
Thank You to **Velascos Restaurant** for donation of gift card at Poker Ride.

Until Next Time. Hoping all is well and Happy Trails.



BACKCOUNTRY COOKS

Strawberry-Pretzel Salad
Contributor, Pat Peverill



2 cups crushed pretzels
1 cup melted margarine
1/4 cup sugar
8 ounces cream cheese softened
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup whipped topping
1 6-ounce package strawberry gelatin
2 cups boiling water
2 10-ounce package frozen strawberries, thawed and drained.

Mix pretzels, margarine and 1/4 cup sugar in bowl. Spread in 9x13 inch baking dish. Bake at 400 degrees for 8 minutes. Cool to room temperature. Beat cream cheese and 1/2 cup sugar in mixer bowl until light. Blend in whipped topping. Spread over baked layer. Dissolve gelatin in boiling water in bowl. Chill until partially set. Stir in strawberries. Spread over cream cheese layer. Chill until set.

Yield:15 servings

2015 OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

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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

Calling ALL Members!

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

Let him know how you want your State
Newsletter:



By E-mail

US Postal



NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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Hoof Print 2015 Deadlines

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

Deadline Publication

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

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 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 \$37.00 (Extra Tall \$40.00). 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.

Riddle Ranch Ride And Election Meeting

San Joaquin Sierra Unit
Elections and General Meeting
October 17, 2015



Ride as you wish starting at 10:00AM

Lunch served starting at noon.

Meeting and Elections for the 2016 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-K, side dishes L-R
and desserts S-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

Cindy Mueller (559) 283-1174

(Cindy: e-mail chipzipnappy@aol.com)

Please call or email Cindy for directions.



TAMARACK RIDE

Jaedyn Traeger, 14 years old

When we got to the entrance of the whole camp I had no idea what I was in for. I realized a few minutes later that it wasn't the best idea to rest your head on the wall of the truck. The road was super bumpy and not very comfortable for anyone to ride on. When we got into the actual campsite, about 10/15 minutes later, **Jan Mikkleson** and **Sandy, Paul and Abigail La Spada** were the only ones there. It was very overcast but it wasn't very cold. We found a spot to park the rig and unloaded the Mommas, before stringing the highline.

After we set up camp we sat out and watched the stars and Abigail found the Big Dipper! At about 4am Friday morning it was raining, it was really loud in the trailer. When we actually got up we went outside and it was sunny and clear but really cold. Around ten we went for a ride to a meadow but we couldn't find it. So we rode back to camp to look at a map and eat some lunch. Before we went back out again **Duane Peverill, Paul, Diana and Ted Fischer** all pulled in so we waited for them. When we went back out we found the meadow and saw 4 little does and a buck run across the meadow. The rest of the ride was really nice and all the horses did really well crossing the bridge.

When we got back, **Cara, Josh and Debbie** all pulled in a while after. Once the sun went down it got really cold again so most of us turned in early. On Saturday Debbie woke up with ice on the foot of her sleeping bag but thankfully it warmed up! **Pete Parkin and Bob Herrick** got there around nine and we saddled up and Cara lead us down the Raven Trail. We stopped for lunch halfway through the ride and enjoyed nature, it was a very pretty trail. Cara made chili beans and tacos for dinner and they were awesome! I really liked what she did for dessert! Pudding with whipped cream and vanilla wafers on top. After dinner we enjoyed each other's company telling stories including the pack trip from Chamberlaine. It was a very fun trip and I'm glad I was able to go!



Sometimes we just get sooooo tired having fun!



Good looking horses, good looking people, that's our San Joaquin Sierra Unit members.



EDUCATION

Commentary: Difficult Lesson To Be Learned **By Lois Murphy, Member of Boise and Squaw Butte BCH** **Submitted by Jan Mikkelsen**

In one split second a horse and dream are dead. Lessons to be learned are sometimes very difficult to understand, but if the lesson can be shared with many, then maybe some good comes out of the heartache. We are still “newbies” in the horse community, but we have learned a lot in the last six years and want to share this experience.

Finally we had a beautiful, sunny and dry Sunday. My husband and I loaded our two horses and set off for a park to participate in a charity horse event. There were 33 horses and riders at the charity poker ride. A short, flat, little ride only about two miles in total, but the grass was green and many friends were there. After the ride, all the horses were tied at their trailers and the charity had a lunch while we listened to a country band. Some owners had taken their horses' bridles off and were tied with a halter and lead with only about 18” to 24” slack. Some owners had their horses tied loosely so the horses could hang their heads all the way to the ground to munch on the long green tasty grass.

A friend of the lead guitarist had helped him by walking his horse for him and had tied her up loosely to the trailer. If we all had a crystal ball, we'd have known this was a very bad mistake. The horse became entangled in the lead and panicked at the trailer. She pulled so hard that she broke her neck, all before anyone could get to her to save her. People close by rushed to her, but it was already too late. She was gone in a split second.

Lesson to be learned, do not tie a horse loosely to anything. Never tie a horse with the bridle on, as the bridle can get caught on the something. It can happen to anyone's horse, even the well-trained horse that you wouldn't think would get itself into trouble.



Great Adventure for California Future Farmers of America

By Randy Witt



Every year California Future Farmers of America high school students compete in state wide Natural Resources Management contests. The students compete in knowledge of flora and fauna, as well as mule packing. The students from Clovis East High School who competed in the mule packing portion of the contest were **Jonathan Woodard, Austin Thompson, Mikaela Kirk, and Lauren Raley**. Their Clovis East High School FFA advisor was **Kevin Woodard**. The students competed in their freshman year of high school.

The packing portion of the contests included each team's judged ability to properly balance, load, and securely lash down a load onto a mule. The students had practiced mule packing skills at their high school, but had never used those skills in a real life, high-altitude, pack trip into the mountains.

In April 2015, **Alan Fry**, Backcountry Horsemen of California/San Joaquin Sierra unit member, and **Kevin Woodard** first started talking about taking the FFA packing team on a mountain trip. In early May Alan, Kevin, and Randy Witt BCHC San Joaquin Sierra unit Vice President, met together to begin planning the trip and outline a grant proposal to be submitted to the Backcountry Horseman of America education fund. By mid-May, Alan Fry had written and submitted the proposal to the BCHA. In Early June BCHA informed Alan the grant had been approved and the adult team went to work.

While more detailed planning continued, an appeal to San Joaquin Sierra unit members was sent out asking for members to loan their horses to the FFA team for some riding training and practice, and to use during the pack trip. Thanks to **Wanda Caradonna, Jim Knabke, Ted Fischer, and Randy Witt** for the generous loan of their precious saddle horses! Other adults helping out with the instructions were **Peter Parkin and Ted Fischer**. A big shout out needs to be given to **Bob Herrick**, an associate member of the San Joaquin Sierra unit. Bob volunteered his time for the duration of the pack trip, as well as his fine string of five mules and saddlehorse. Bob tries to volunteer his time and mules at least once a month. Thank you, Bob.

Before this fun and educational pack trip could begin, there had to be a great deal of planning and preparation. One week before the pack trip was to begin, all the new riders and their mounts assembled at Randy Witt's ranch for some riding instruction and practice. **Jonathan and Austin** of the FFA, had almost no riding experience, but the two young women, **Lauren and Mikaela**, had some previous horse riding instruction. Their instructor, **Kevin Woodard**, had not been on a horse for twenty years, but had considerable horseback experience when he was managing a ranch. In less than three hours time, the students and their instructor received instruction on emergency one-rein stops, leg cues for forward motion, backing, move on the forehand and the haunch, crossing a bridge over a creek, water crossing and going up and down mountain steps. All of the riders and their mounts felt more comfortable with these skills before they left that day.

One week after the practice riding session, all the participants of the pack trip met at the Chamberlain meadows trailhead, located near Courtright reservoir, just a few hours northeast of Fresno/Clovis California in the

Sierra National Forest. This is when the rubber hit the road (or you might say "the hooves hit the trail".) The students learned to lay out all the components of the load on spread- out mantees. They next started assembling the loads, densest items at the bottom of the panniers, with lighter, smaller items packed in around the dense bottom part of the load. We first lifted and estimated the balance of the two sides of the load and then used the spring scale to verify our estimate. We explained to the students the success or failure to keep the load on the pack stock was dependent more than anything else on the balance of the load. After adding the top load, we next put the panniers on the mules. We next squared the mantees and rolled back the edges to expose the crosses of the Sawbuck saddles. "What's so important about seeing the crosses of the saddles?", the students asked. Watching the crosses of the saddle over the mule's spine is the surest way of detecting slippage of the load to one side or the other.

The students had competed in contests using the diamond hitch. For our loads the box hitch was more appropriate. It took a few tries but the students picked it up pretty quick. It took a couple hours to get everything packed up, but eventually we were on our way down the trail toward Chamberlain cabin.

The ride to Chamberlain meadow was beautiful and green. We found our campsite to have plenty of feed in the meadow, but thanks to the drought in California almost no water in the creek. We were also pleased to find the new bear boxes packed in earlier in the week, as well as the pit toilet and solar shower stall our unit constructed the year before, all to be in good order.

After breakfast the next day, Wilderness Rider, **Randy Witt**, led a group discussion on **Leave No Trace** principles. During the remainder of the day, the students practiced the box hitch, took a hike and went fishing, and the two young female members of our group went out for a ride with **Peter Parkin**. We also added some wooden feet to the bear boxes and angle iron braces on some added support posts for the pit toilet/shower structure. When we arrived at Chamberlain cabin, the first order of business was to set up the highline with tree savers. The work was parceled out to work teams. While one team set up the portable hot wire fence in the meadow, the boys on the FFA team headed out looking for potable water to be transported back to camp and filtered. After the horses were secure in the meadow, we all started working on setting up the kitchen, our tents, and bags. The first night the young women helped out in the kitchen by cooking the hot dogs and burgers. Add some potato salad, chips and some drinks and you could call it a delicious meal. The two hot breakfasts included coffee, eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, butter, syrup and milk. Dinner the second night included tri tip sandwiches, beans, chips and more potato salad. Everything tastes fabulous at 7500 feet.

Alas, all good things eventually come to an end. On the third day, after breakfast, we began breaking camp, packing up our stuff, balancing loads, and loading them up. Everybody, adults and students, were kind of tired from a busy schedule but we all pitched in and got the work done quickly. We headed back out to the trailhead riding along knowing that we had accomplished something and had a good time while doing it. As tired as we were, at the back of our minds was the question, "How soon can we go packing again?"



SPANISH LAKE WORK PARTY

By Joe Kaminski

What a challenge the Spanish Lake work party was. After a recon ride to survey the trail, it was determined there was no trail. After years of growth and downed trees it was virtually impossible to see where the trail once had existed. Thanks to the occasional trail blaze, GPS, and old maps we were able to determine where the trail had been. We quickly changed our goal of opening the entire trail to hopefully making a dent in the impossible. To add to our woes it was undetermined where we would set up camp due to the drought and limited water. Fortunately a camp site was found with an abundance of feed and fresh water for us and our stock.

Prior to starting work, JHA's (job hazard analysis) was gone over and discussion over some previous close calls and mishaps. It was evident that our work party took this to heart as all work was completed without an injury or close call. With camp being set up our crew of **Pete Parkin, Cara Peterson, Alexis, Warner, Bob Skinner, Sandy Laspada, Joe and Carol Kaminski**, were ready to take on the task at hand. Unfortunately we learned that our already limited crew would be short by one person each day as it would be necessary to leave someone behind at camp each day for bear watch duty.

How our spirits were lifted upon receiving word that Forest Service would be joining us in our endeavors to clear this trail. This proved to be one of the finest if not **the** finest crew that we have had the privilege to work with. With **Mickey's** leadership this crew proved to be tenacious for the task at hand. Together we worked diligently in cutting and moving trees, clearing brush and widening the trail to the required specs. It was a formidable challenge to return the trail to its original routing due to all the obstacles such as downed trees and cow trails. Much care had to be taken especially with some of the larger snags to ensure everyone's safety. As we slowly chipped away it took a while before we started to see progress. After a couple of days of seemingly no progress, it was refreshing to realize we were slowly making our way down the trail into new territory. The next to last day what a sight it was to walk down the trail and see the sign for the main trail to Spanish Lake. Before calling it a day on Friday, we took a short ride to the top of the hill to Spanish Lake. What a sight it was to see not only the lake but a full lake even in these years of drought. There is now a user friendly trail from Rancheria Trailhead to Spanish Lake. Many thanks to Mickey's crew and the dedication of those who went on this work party.

Of course being in nature you never know what to expect. How we were privileged to see spectacular lightning shows on Thursday and Friday nights. Unbeknownst to us a fire was about to erupt from the lightning on the other side of Spanish Mountain. This would become known as the historic **Rough Fire**. Yes, we were there in the very beginning of this devastating and seemingly unstoppable fire. At this time it is unknown if our work has remained or been burned over.

Hopefully this trail will remain for years to come. Big thanks to everyone who took the time and effort to work on this project and make it a success.

Mules on The Rough Fire

Submitted by Duane Peverill

Incident: Rough Fire Wildfire



Pack string mules are valuable tools in managing the 191 million acres that make up the national forests. The pack strings support a wide variety of projects in the national forests, including hauling materials and gear to support Forest Service operations.

Forest Service employees **Debbie McDougald** and **John Sprik** are two such packers. As part of the Rough Fire, they will each be leading a string of five mules out into the wilderness to resupply the Wilderness Fire Module personnel currently deployed. Each mule will be carrying about 150 pounds of gear which will be used for restocking the fire crews in the modules. As part of their operations in the wilderness, Debbie and John will haul in gear and haul out refuse and backhaul from the teams, using the Wishon Work Center as their base.

Forest fires are a newer avenue for pack teams to continue with the work they have provided for many years in the forests. Debbie and John are both fire line qualified, and work in the Sierra Forest as part of Region Five. The first fire Debbie remembers being deployed on was the Zaca Fire, where she was able to pack in hose, tools and food to hand crews. Since then, the use of pack mules has increased as part of the efforts to leave a minimal footprint when possible.





Shaver Lake Poker Ride, September 12, 2015

By Randy Witt

Our unit had a successful Poker Ride! It was held on the trails around the old fishing club just a couple miles past our own Shaver Lake BCHC camp on Dinky Lake Road. The ride was organized and facilitated by **Jim and Debbie Dixon** with help from **Pat and Duane Peverill**. As with most of our events our President **Joe** and his wife **Carol Kaminski** were deeply involved as well as **Pete and JC Parkin** and **Tara Stephenson**. **Freddie Chrisman, Ted Fischer, and Randy Witt** also came along the day before to help out with the set up. As with all rides its

success was largely dependent on the principle organizers.

The principal organizers set up the card hands, manicured the trail, including removing downed trees across the trail, food preparation and prize procurement. After setting up camp, including high lines for the horses, the principles as well as the helpers enjoyed the nice cool evening even though it was somewhat smoky. In the morning before the event began everyone enjoyed a continental breakfast. Approximately 20 Participants were in the saddle and out on the trail by 10 AM. The number of pre registered participants was minimized by a couple of factors. A couple participants didn't come because of the unhealthy air generated by the Sequoia National Forest fire. We may also have lost a couple of riders who were helping to evacuate horses from those fires. Before 1 o'clock all the riders were back into camp and ready to eat some lunch.

Lunch was delicious. The **Kaminski's** had prepared a large pot of shredded beef. **Pat Peverill** provided a great pot of her now famous chili beans. The meal was well rounded out with potato salad, macaroni salad, bread, and dessert. Before announcing the winners of the poker hands and raffle items, President Kaminski distributed information and thank you's to those who participated, helped out, and donated prizes. After Joe's remarks we moved on to the big raffle winners. Interestingly enough, both the high hand and the low poker hand worth a combined value of \$120 went to the same person, **Janice Schmidt**. The all-inclusive three day pack trip into Chamberlain Meadows raffle prize went to, **Pete and JC Parkin**. The other grand prize raffle was a three day all inclusive stay at Fredi Chrisman's Shaver Lake vacation home. The winner of that prize was **Linette Elkins**. Altogether the participants and the organizers had a great time at this poker ride.



Save the Date!!!

TRAIL TRIALS 2015 November 14, 2015 Riddle Farms, Orosi CA

We are planning it again! We are well under way in designing new obstacles and a new course. This year we will be awarding prizes in three divisions for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places and an overall high point for the day.

The official announcement will be out the first week of October. Look for an Email Blast announcing the ride which include the registration forms. This year we have facilities available at the Central Valley Saddle Club in Reedley, CA for those who have out of town friends. More information for the overnight accommodations will be in the information packet and provided to people interested.

Make sure you mark your calendar for another great day of riding and fun at the Riddle ranch.

For more information or if you would like the registration form emailed to you directly, please contact Cindy Mueller at chipzipnappy@aol.com
Peggy Riddle and crew.



Some examples of obstacles from last years Trail Trials.

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 Mikkelsen 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

SJSU HISTORIAN WANTED

We are looking for someone interested in taking a position of HISTORIAN. We have a lot of awards and pictures that we would like to share with our members. We need someone to gather these and place them in some kind of order for us. Please contact Randy Witt, Vice President at 559-325-7876 if you can help us out.

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

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"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
cjhargreaves@verizon.net



BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA



SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA UNIT

Board Meeting
Wednesday July 1, 2015
Location: Elks Lodge, Clovis, California

Meeting called to order at 6:31 PM

Roll taken:

President: Joe Kaminski Vice President: Absent
Secretary: Patricia Peverill Treasurer: Peter Parkin
Director: Duane Peverill, Carol Kaminski, Debra McFarren, Fredi Chrisman, Jan Mikkelsen
Education: Ted Fischer Advisor: Kathy Walker Guest: Allen Fry

Additions to Agenda: None

Opening Comments: None

Minutes Review and Approve. The June 3, 2015 minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion by Duane P Second by Carol K

Correspondence: None

Treasurer Report & Budget:

General Checking: 14,465.65

CD's & Savings:

Working on Audit

Committee Reports:

Education: Carrie & Guy Adams offered educational presentation at meeting in October.

Newsletter. Please send stuff to Carolyn email. Not Facebook. rcca33085@hotmail.com Articles Due July 20

Linda K doing a great job monitoring FaceBook

Public Land. See Rides and Events.

Sunshine Corner: Cards were to be sent to Debbie McDougald, Gene Simone and Ed Fitzpatrick

Shaver Lake. Functioning and no campfires. Camp in good shape. Need to have.

Old Business

Flags and Signs. Flags \$15.00 all five sold. Duane asked asked to order more flags and business cards of 1000. Motion by Pat P and Debra M second. Ted to check on original art work so we can clean up our logo.

Rides and Events

1. Edison. Two trails cleared. Success. John was great offered full run of camp. Offered pack mule to help. Trash run Sandy and Duane with Vic. Everyone was welcome to stay. No grant money. Total Volunteer.
2. Chamberlain next work party. Fire restrictions in effect. Red box ordered. No trays purchased.
3. Spanish Work Party. End of July. Will be tough. Looping two trails. 27 Monday through August 2. Hard trip. Will move camp. Rancheria Trail Head. Supply own feed.
4. MDO has 13 horses and looking good. Expense have been covered. Heart of the Horse coming. Ted will send check
5. Tamarack Ride August 8 and 9. Sponsor will provide dinner. Club will take potty's.
6. September Poker Ride. September 12. Jim and Debbie Dixon Paying \$200.00 fee to use Shaver Site. \$30.00 lunch and poker ride. \$700.00 Motioned by Duane P. Second by Fredi Chrisman. Checks mailed to Jim directly. Early entry equals free poker hand. Menu to be decided. Ready o ride at 10:00
7. Chamberlain Beginning Pack. \$1000.00 Grant. 1 Instructor and 5 students. 5 horse volunteered. All became family member. Allen need applications Need Helmets. Must do article for state paper prior to August 8.

New Business:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM. Motioned Duane P Second Debra M

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA



SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA UNIT

Board Meeting
Wednesday August 5, 2015
Location: Elks Lodge, Clovis, California

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Roll taken:

President: Joe Kaminski

Vice President: Randy Witt

Secretary: Patricia Peverill

Treasurer: Peter Parkin

Director: Duane Peverill, Carol Kaminski, Debra McFarren, Fredi Chrisman, Jan Mikkelsen

Education: Absent Adviser: Kathy Walker Guest: Allen Fry

Minutes Review and Approve. The July 1, 2015 minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion by Duane P Second by Randy W

Correspondence: None

Treasurer Report & Budget:

General Checking: 15,100.44

CD's & Savings: 11,371.09

Working on Audit

Committee Reports:

Education: No report

Membership: 18-25 Elexa Jan needs to know when someone joins. Brandy Montgomery, Pat Plume New Members

Newsletter. Done -Out-Great Job Sept 20 deadline. Kids Corner will be in Sept Issue. Joe sent articles to state. Good Press. Theodore Solomon Trail

Public Land.

Joe said cleared 2.5 miles on Spanish.

Sunshine Corner: Paul LaSpada Get Well Card. Wanda Cardonna for loss of horse. Send Thank You Mike T for donation of halters, Bob Schwocer for hauling bear box. Purchase \$75.00 gift card for Bob H for Hauling Bear Boxes into Chamberlain. Motioned by Pat P-Second by Duane P approved.

Shaver Lake. Functioning and no campfires. Camp in good shape. No lock will not be installed on Potty. Joe is going to check in on regulations and policy for using Shaver Camp. Motioned was made for Associate use of camp by Jan M-Second by Pat P. Approved.

Old Business

Fredi sold some 2015 calendars. Crown Valley family not happy about Crown Valley pictures in the 2016 calendar.

Business cards were handed out to Officers/Directors 50 per person.

4 flags left for sale \$15.00 each

Rides and Events

1. **Tamarack Ride** August 8 and 9. Sponsor will provide dinner. Club will take potty's Eleven riders confirmed for event.

2. **September Poker Ride.** September 12. Fredi is bringing Potato Salad, Pat is bringing beans. Joe and Carol is BBQing. Duane has flyer out. Pete, Pat and Duane working on cards. Debbie Dixon taking applications Halter donations.

3. **Chamberlain Great Trip.** Work got done. Bear Boxes success.

Chamberlain Beginning Packers. 4 FFA Students and Instructor. Article to State is done. Ted and Randy great instruction. Thanks to Pete for taking the girls out riding.

Spanish was a success. Forest service crew was great. Two new people on work party. Lots of work and lots of sawing. Borrowed wedges from Crown Valley people and club wants to buy new wedges to replace them. Randy made motioned-second by Fredi-Approved.

New Business:

1. Trail Trial. November 14th. In the works

2. Elections In October All Officers position open. 4 Director positions open.

Pat will make ballot. Send nominations to Pat.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM. Motioned Duane P Second Debra M

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA



Board Meeting
Wednesday September 2, 2015
Location: Elks Lodge, Clovis, California

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Roll taken:

President: Joe Kaminski Vice President: Randy Witt

Secretary: Patricia Peverill Treasurer: Peter Parkin

Director: Duane Peverill, Carol Kaminski, Debra McFarren, Fredi Chrisman, Jim Knapke

Education: Absent

Shaver Lake: Wanda Cardonna

Newsletter: Carolyn Witt

Adviser: Kathy Walker Guest: Cindy Mueller and Gary VanSickle

Additions to Agenda: Tool Shed

Opening Comments: Still looking for Historian

Minutes Review and Approve. The August 5, 2015 minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion by Carol K Second by Duane

Correspondence: None

Treasurer Report & Budget:

YTD Income: \$4840.69

YTD Expense: \$5280.00

YTD Profit(loss): \$699.14

General Checking: 14408.42

CD's & Savings: 11,317.09

Working on Audit

Committee Reports:

Education: No report

Membership: Diana-Paul Sorenson new members. Alexs joined at Spanish/Crown

Newsletter. Articles Due September 20, 2015. **Tamarack**-Cara P (will ask). Need recipes. **Spanish**-Kaminski. **Poker Ride**-? Pete needs clarification on ad price.

Public Land.

Fire still burning. Meeting with Sequoia can-celled.

Sunshine Corner: Thank You Bob Shower. Get well to Randy Witt. Thank You to Mike for Halter. Thank You. Bob Herrick
Sympathy to Wanda and Diane Dolby

Shaver Lake. Wanda will ask for help when closing camp.

Old Business

1. **Elections:** All Officers positions open. 4 director positions. Candidates so far.

President: Joe Kaminski VP- Duane Peverill Treasure: Pete Parkin

Directors: Jim Knapke, Fredi Chrisman, Carolyn W, Cathy W, Randy W

Elections is Potluck. Brings salads and deserts.

2. Joe still needs to purchase wedges to replace borrowed ones.

3. **Trail Trial.** Nov 14 Budget \$1035.00 Judges in Line. Hotel setup for overnight stays. Central Valley Saddle Club possible stable for horses and camping. Possible Buckle. Voted on. Motion Randy W -Second Jim K Passed.

Rides and Events

1 **September Poker Ride.** September 12. 6 pre entries. Send out email to old participants. Can forms be on line for registration. Flyers with tear off for contact. Still a go. Watching smoke levels.

New Business:

1. **Christmas Party.** December 12, 2015 Need someone to head up. Cathy W will help. Has ideas.

Tool Shed. Randy needs to do inventory. Looking for help. Pete will help. Pat and Duane will help. Randy will look for date.

State Board Meeting October 3, 2015. Reservations for lunch \$5.00

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM. Motioned Duane P Second Carol K



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.