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The Backcountry News

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SPRING 2022



NEW INSURANCE POLICY NOW IN FORCE

By Jamie Wilson, DVM, BCHC 1st Vice President

BCHC's new insurance policy took effect April 1, and things have been going smoothly with our new agent, Patti Carmichael Sander. There are a few changes in procedures, but they mean less work for us when planning events.

BCHC now has coverage for more youth-oriented activities, including overnight camping. We also have coverage for our saw training classes. This is still only third-party liability coverage, like we had and, as a reminder, it does not cover member-to-member issues and is not medical insurance.

Units no longer need to notify the insurance company when they have events that include non-members. These used to be called "Public Days." The new policy covers everyone at a sanctioned official BCHC event, whether member or not. We don't need to ask for public days or notify the insurance company about participating in parades anymore.

The key to our coverage and the way we protect ourselves under the new policy is by having ALL PARTICIPANTS SIGN A LIABILITY WAIVER BEFORE THE EVENT BEGINS. This is critical! Everyone, including BCHC members, must sign a form. There is a liability release form (BCHC Event and Release Waiver) on the BCHC website (bchcalifornia.org), under the "Forms" tab.

A sanctioned, official event can still be an impromptu Dutch oven clinic or a last-minute trail ride. Just remember to have everyone

sign a release and the coverage is there. The event doesn't have to be scheduled months in advance and printed in your newsletters, although those are also good ways to show that an event is sanctioned and official. It may take some re-training of our brains and some reminding, but the liability releases are IMPORTANT!

The only things we need to contact our insurance agent about are Additional Insureds and Certificates of Insurance, which are sometimes required by a property owner or a public agency if an event is being held there, such as a ranch, fairgrounds, or public park. As in the past, if a unit needs one of these, just fill out a BCHC Request Form for Public Days Additional Insured from the BCHC website (under the "Forms" tab) and email it to me. Turnaround time is usually a few days, but please request these 1-2 weeks in advance to allow for weekends, missed emails, etc.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about forms, events, or other insurance-related things. I do occasionally miss emails, so if I haven't replied to an email, please send me another. My email is drjamie91@gmail.com. My phone number is (559) 202-7216.

There have been many requests for events in the next couple of months, so BCHC is back out there teaching and doing again! It's great to see that!

See page 5 for more on INSURANCE

The Backcountry News

An internal publication of the Backcountry Horsemen of California

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Deadlines: Advertising, announcements, pictures and other copy must be received at The Backcountry News by the deadlines listed below.

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
Summer 2022 Edition	July 8, 2022
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<u>Number of Issues:</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	
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Half Page (h/v)	\$100.00	\$95.00	\$90.00	\$85.00	
Quarter Page (h/v)	\$80.00	\$76.00	\$72.00	\$68.00	
Bus. Card (h/v)	\$25.00	\$23.75	\$22.50	\$21.25	

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For more BCHC information, see our website: bchcalifornia.org

President's Page

During the 37 plus years I have been operating equines, I have discovered there is more than one way to ride a horse or mule. Most folks prefer to ride with their feet in the stirrups facing toward the animal's ears while confidently holding a loose rein. Conversely, there are some brave souls who face the tail having the reins firmly clenched in their teeth. Either way you can still view your surroundings and reach your destination. Personally, I like facing forward as it seems to be a lot safer, more comfortable and easier on the body and equipment, thus minimizing potential wrecks along the way.

I have observed some organizations with similar outlooks, working in harmony and fellowship, appreciating each other's company with a common objective in mind. I believe Backcountry Horsemen of California should be like that, keeping public lands open and accessible to all the people. As members of this fine organization, we should be clearing all obstacles, both the physical ones on the trail and those of a bureaucratic or obstructive nature. We should strive to build, maintain and renew relationships internally as well as with like-minded partners. We must be confident in knowing who we are and what we are about while enjoying each other's companionship.

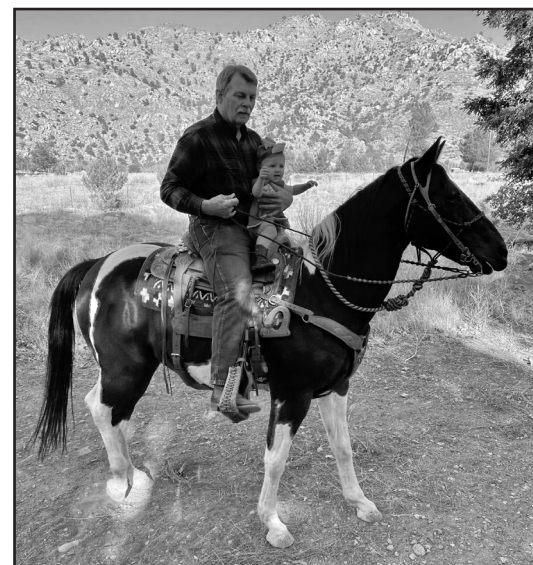
In my short time as BCHC President I have added two new positions to the BCHC leadership group. Initially, I appointed a Chaplain, Lynn Joiner, whose obligations include: having a willingness to serve and a sense of spiritual maturity, being a neutral, positive, caring person with good moral fiber and integrity. The objective of this appointment was to create a touchstone of stability for BCHC. My belief is that where calm and creative reflection reside, there you will not find chaos.

The second appointment was a Sergeant-at-Arms. This assignment went to BCHC's good friend, Robert Anderson. Robert has since passed. The reasons he was chosen, however, included his desire to serve, to avoid confrontation, to resolve conflict, to be level-headed and able to think his way out of a situation rather than initially resort to physicality. I felt Robert fit this description perfectly. My belief was the only thing larger than his stature was his large, caring heart. With his passing, I am now obligated to find an individual to fill those large boots. Goodbye, my brother. Bless you. May you go in peace and walk in grace.

Another state leadership change was welcoming Mike Lewis back as the returning BCHC Saw Coordinator. He had previously held this position and carried out his duties with professionalism, while being an excellent representative and liaison with other groups and organizations.

Since assuming my role as President, I have travelled throughout the state for various Officer Training sessions. These educational forums were held from Murrieta in the south, Bakersfield in the middle, to Oroville in the north. I have met many new friends, shared their wisdom and received a lot of commonsense input. It was a pleasure and refreshing to meet so many dedicated and knowledgeable people. I would not otherwise have had the opportunity to meet these fine folks and I thank you for that.

Along this same vein I found our State BCHC meeting in Visalia on February 4 and 5 to be impactful and illuminating. We exchanged excellent information and received meaningful input from many quadrants of the state, which helped to energize us and move the organization



**BCHC President
Mike Hughes**

forward. As it was my first meeting holding the gavel, I attempted to set a certain tone. We would show each other basic respect as we moved toward our common goals. I set into motion subcommittees such as the Financial Investment Committee. Their assignments are to work on prevalent issues that would continue BCHC toward a matched fiscal vision within the individual membership of the organization. I came to realize during these proceedings that some mistakes were made. I will assure you now that although I will not always be right, I will constantly strive to do the right thing. Additionally, I will continue to respect the past, live in the present and assist in designing a plan and vision for the future.

I wish to lead a BCHC community that is facing forward with our feet firmly planted in the stirrups, looking out for our brethren who insist on facing backwards. However, we must receive assurances that they will leave their spurs at home. Just saying.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Hughes, BCHC President

OCTOBER STATE BOARD MEETING

**Friday, October 7
Saturday, October 8, 2022**

PLACE TO BE ANNOUNCED

BCHC NEWS



BCHC Editor
Carol Jo Hargreaves

PLAY THE HAND YOU ARE DEALT

By Carol Jo Hargreaves, Editor

Spring has brought strange weather. California is hot with not enough rain and Washington (where I now live) remains cold and wet, receiving more rain than we're used to!

We are powerless to change the weather, so let's make the best of it. Let's be flexible and

play the hands we are dealt. If it's hot and dry, go outside, enjoy the weather, and do chores that one day it will be too hot to do. If it's a rainy day, consult your list of indoor "To Do" items and start marking things off. Accept and make the most of your current situation. Things are bound to get better!

While I am pontificating, I have recently noticed (perhaps because of the isolation caused by COVID?) we are not treating each other as kindly as we could. When someone doesn't know something or seems to have made a mistake, instead of criticizing, assigning blame and belittling that person, why not offer help? If you know the answer or can help resolve a problem, do so with an encouraging and helpful attitude. Building each other up will improve our organization and make membership more inviting to others.

My thanks to busy Susie Patton, BCHC Secretary, for providing an excellent summary of 2021 unit activities on Pages 4 and 5. We really did accomplish a lot this past year, despite the restrictions of COVID! Susie also described what BCHC does to support and encourage its units on Pages 9 and 10.

Although it is not yet hunting season, be sure to read the excellent article about lead ammo and its effects on wildlife, on page 23.

As I was placing the New Members list on Page 25, I was happily surprised that Mid Valley and North Bay units each gained 11 members during the past quarter. Congratulations, especially to tiny North Bay Unit! That is quite a feat.

Since new BCHC leaders were announced in the Winter edition of this newspaper, there have been many changes. Sadly, Robert Anderson passed, leaving his National Director and Sergeant-at-Arms positions vacant. Sincere thanks to Terry Jorgenson, who stepped up from her Alternate position to attend the recent BCHA National Meeting on BCHC's behalf. See Terry's article on Page 22.

We also welcome Mike Lewis back to his position as Saw Coordinator. Mike also joins Chip Herzig and Lucy Badenhoop on BCHC's three-member Safety Committee. Thank you to Dan Horn for all he accomplished as Saw Coordinator. In addition, Lynn Joiner was appointed to fill the new BCHC President-appointed Chaplain position.

Our thanks to all who serve this great organization in any capacity. Without all of you and your gifts of volunteerism, Backcountry Horsemen of California could not fulfill its mission of educating people in Leave No Trace principles, preserving and improving backcountry resources, and keeping public lands open to all. You are appreciated!

P.S. If you would like extra copies of the paper to distribute at upcoming unit events, let me know the number you need by the 7/8 deadline and I will arrange to have them mailed/delivered to your contact person.



BCHC Secretary
Susie Patton

UNIT REPORTS SUMMARY FOR 2021 Slow Start but Most Ended with Lots of Events

By Susie Patton, BCHC Secretary

At the beginning of 2021 most BCHC units were still under COVID restrictions and held their meetings using Zoom. They worked on their financial reports, volunteer hours and unit reports which were all due in February. Most units also attended the State Meeting in Santa Nella in February and got the latest information from the State Officers. They attended planning meetings with their local agencies to prepare to, hopefully, work in the spring. Several units were able to do scouting rides to prepare for trail rides and trail work.

By May numerous units were holding events such as conditioning rides, tack sales, packing and hitch demonstrations, camp clean ups, rebuilding of old horse camps, potlucks, and highway cleanups. Also, toward the end of May, a great many BCHC members from across the state turned up for the Bishop Mule Days Celebration. Several units sponsored intercollegiate pack teams, members helped man the BCHC booth, gave demonstrations on iron mules or the high line and entertained many with crosscut saws. It was a great time of renewing friendships, visiting, and introducing many people to BCHC, who we are and what we do.

In June many units hosted trail rides, held campouts, conducted pack trips for the Forest Service, did fish plants, worked on the PCT, began work on new or old horse camps, spent many hours clearing hundreds of miles of trails, and removed hundreds of downed trees. Some units awarded scholarships to graduating seniors. Many units reported that these activities helped their membership numbers by member renewals as well as attracting new members. As July rolled around, several units held special July 4th activities with multi-day campouts and Dutch oven cooking. There was a Youth Wilderness Campout, some units worked with CCC crews and Forest Service crews, others took young adult members on their first pack trip. More trail projects were done, and more downed trees were removed. Unfortunately, the Dixie Fire halted all work for some of BCHC's more northern units.

August found many units focused on fundraising with Poker Rides, campouts with guest speakers, trail trials, raffles, and booths at various fairs and festivals. The Dixie Fire continued to keep northern units from working. Then the Caldor Fire hit the El Dorado Forest, closing many things down including the State Officers' Summer Retreat.

In September units not impacted by the Dixie Fire or the Caldor Fire continued

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their work projects, restoring an Interpretive Center, finishing up a new Ramada, working on Rendezvous planning, holding rides, and packing for various agencies.

BCHC's October State Board meeting was again held in Santa Nella, with several units sending their proxies with other units due to fire dangers in their areas. Elections were held for the 2022 year and directors discussed how to raise BCHC membership numbers. Rendezvous was held in Tulare and a great time was had by all who attended. Great friends, great classes, great food, and a profitable auction. Many units stepped up to help and did an outstanding job hosting the hospitality booth, putting on the trail trials, kids corral, Dutch oven cooking, the packing clinics, including youth competitions, a fantastic wine/beer tasting, and informative classes. Great job to San Joaquin Sierra, Kern Sierra, Kern River, Sequoia, Eastern Sierra, and Redshank Riders who worked tirelessly to make this a successful Rendezvous. Units hosted Halloween-themed events and camp outs, attended workshops, met with agencies to plan work projects, held BCHC Saw classes, began negotiations for 2023 Rendezvous, and held various public events to attract new members.

Beginning in November most units held special meetings and general membership meetings to elect officers for 2022. Some units completed work on trailheads getting them ready for winter. Others held canned food drives and packed the food to a distribution center. Culminating events were held on completed projects and fundraising was done. By December units rounded out their year with Christmas parties, giving to needy families, preparing their calendars for 2022, welcoming new officers and enjoying the holidays with family and friends.

Thank you to every unit for getting their reports in on time. You did a great job with pictures and descriptions of all your work in a difficult year of COVID and fires.

INTERESTED IN COVERAGE FOR YOUR UNIT-OWNED TRAILER AND/OR TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT?

Hello all,

The new insurance carrier for BCHC offers coverage for equipment trailers and unit tools and equipment. This coverage would be paid by the units that want this coverage, not by all units in the state. I need to find out which units are interested in this coverage, and the approximate value of their equipment. The premiums are as follows:

Physical Damage for Cargo Trailers

\$150/year per trailer for trailers valued up to \$8,000

\$500 deductible per trailer

(Trailers worth over \$8,000 have higher premium)

Miscellaneous Tools and Equipment

\$750/year for up to \$50,000

\$1,000 deductible

The equipment is covered whether it is in a trailer or at another location

Multiple units with small amounts of equipment could combine for a Tools and Equipment policy.

Unit Presidents: Please email me if your unit wants to purchase coverage for a trailer and/or equipment. Also, include the values of trailer and/or equipment. I will ask the insurance agent what the premiums are for more valuable trailers, if necessary. To keep things simple, if units combine for smaller amounts of equipment, the cost will be split evenly. For example, if three units have \$50,000 of tools combined, they will pay \$250 each, not some percentage based on the value of their tools. We will try to group similar values together to be fair, but it must be simple (unless someone wants to design a spreadsheet for it and keep track for me)!

Please send this information to me by May 15.

Thank you,
Jamie Wilson, DVM, BCHC 1st VP

TREASURER'S UPDATE

By Lynn Joiner, BCHC Treasurer



BCHC Treasurer
Lynn Joiner

I would like to give a shout out to Jacque Murphy for her work on the T-shirt project. BCHC has offered the shirts twice. The first time we made a little over \$1,000 and this time we made \$855. Jacque is working on another design so be on the lookout for a new T-shirt in the coming months.

On another subject, I am in the process of getting BCHC's \$72,000 of Lucky Calendar money invested with the Mutual Fund group where the PCTA has their funds invested.

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Volunteer Hours: BUT WHY?

By Alyssa Alvarez, BCHC 2nd VP

Howdy, members. I hope your spring is starting off well. I have been receiving a lot of inquiries about the collection of volunteer hours and its importance to our organization, so I thought it would be best to review that information here.

After being a member of BCHC for two years, I was elected to my current position of Volunteer Hours Coordinator for all 22 units in the state. Prior to that election, I had no real concept of how important it is for our organization to collect and report volunteer hours.

The lifeblood of Backcountry Horsemen is our volunteer efforts. We bust our butts with long miles, sweat on our brows, chainsaws in hand and mules in tow, and we do it all for the love of keeping public trails open. But you ask, "How do we track those hours, and why?" Here are a few Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to help answer these questions:

Q: How do volunteer hours make a difference in the big picture? Is it really that important to collect them?

A: Tracking and reporting volunteer hours is how BCHC secures grants and funding to continue to do our work on public lands, so it is VERY important to collect them. Every hour you work and every mile you drive are assigned a dollar value and at the end of the year each unit's hours are totaled and reported back to our parent organization, Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA). Showing how many hours we have all worked allows us to lobby with more clout and prove the importance of the work we do for public lands. As a state, California is under-reporting by close to 50 percent, and I believe with more education on the subject we can really bump up our numbers.

Q: What is considered a volunteer hour/mile?

A: Ever attend a BCH meeting? *Track the hours you sat there and how many hours and miles it took you to drive there.*

Drive a few miles to complete a work project? *Clock those miles AND the hours you spent driving your personal vehicle. If you have a passenger in the car, they are permitted to track their hours but not the miles.*

Use a tractor or backhoe to clear logs from a trail? *That's considered heavy equipment operation and can also be tracked.*

Have a question about what else can be tracked or how to do so? You may email me any time at volunteerhoursbchc@gmail.com with your questions.

Q: If I'm out clearing trails all day, am I supposed to bring a print-out of the volunteer hours tracking sheet and mark hours as I go?

A: In a perfect world, every member would be tracking every mile driven and hour spent. Is it realistic to carry that in your saddle bag? Maybe for some, but my suggestion would be for there to be one person on each project/event/meeting that is comfortable marking everyone's hours on a sheet to turn in to your unit's Volunteer

Hours Coordinator at the completion of the project. That way, you can get some help tracking-as-you-go instead of trying to remember how many miles you drove or hours you worked weeks later.

Q: Is planning for a work project or event considered volunteer hours?

A: YES! Any time spent planning for a BCH-related work project or event is considered "recon" and can be tracked as such.

It may seem arduous to collect these hours, mark them down and turn them in, but please remember that by doing so you are helping BCHC to flourish, and you are helping to protect public lands. Being out there in the wilderness is what we love to do, but barring photographic evidence of such projects, how would we prove that this work has been done by us and not by another organization? Volunteer hours tracking!

I would like to extend an invitation to all BCHC Unit Presidents and Volunteer Hours Coordinators to reach out to me this spring before large-scale projects begin coming to fruition to see what you can do to improve your reporting and the reporting from your members to you. It is in the hands of each unit to express the importance of volunteer hours collection and to enforce it by setting a good example. How long did it take me to write this article? You best believe I'll be tracking that time.

Here is a link to the JPEG of all submitted volunteer hours for Backcountry Horsemen of California, c. 2021:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1X0yN1nXd9MM0FITEZr5OYXGTc5XnYLk7/view?usp=sharing>



2022

May 26-30 Mule Days Booth and demo area (volunteers needed)

July 8 Summer Newsletter Deadline

October 7-8 State Board Meeting and Elections (place TBA)

October 15 Fall Newsletter Deadline

2023

January 15 - Winter Newsletter Deadline

February State Board Meeting (date TBD); Intern applications go out

March 24-26 Rendezvous, Temecula

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**Bylaws Subcommittee Chair
Chip Herzig**

A ROADMAP TO SUCCESS FOR NONPROFITS

By Chip Herzig

A couple folks who participated in the Officer Training Traveling Road Show asked about the purpose of Strategic Plans and the migration from a Bylaws-driven organization to a Policy Controlled organization. To answer requires some background, so here goes:

When you form a nonprofit organization there is a ton of paperwork that starts with a document sent to the Secretary of State and the State Attorney General asking to incorporate as a nonprofit organization. In effect, you are becoming a nonprofit *corporation*. Most corporations develop Strategic Plans that define their futures and what they consider very important. Going on in parallel (well, almost parallel), is the Internal Revenue Service documentation, which is an approval of your new corporation's Bylaws. OK, so with victory declared from the Attorney General and getting past the IRS, what do you do next?

That question boils down to how successful you want to be. For BCHC, the answer is easy. "We want to be VERY successful." So, to be successful requires that we grow up and start shifting to an organization that relies on Policy directives. This idea comes from many experts. They say that an organization must establish rock solid Bylaws and then transition to Policies. The experts go further to explain that Bylaws are the "what you do" and Policies are "the how you do it."

The transition to this type of organization comes in three distinct stages:

1. Committing to the concept
2. Developing a Board Policy Manual (BPM)
3. Integrating the BPM

Committing means developing a Board Policy Manual (BPM). The whole organization must buy in on this process.

Developing a BPM is not that daunting, but each member of the Board of Directors and all unit leadership must commit to it.

Integrating means using the "living" BPM document whose role is to be an integral part of the governance process on a continuing basis.

Where is BCHC in this process? We have completed major revisions of the Bylaws and have started on the Policy Manual. We have developed several policies already and now our thinking is to fix an issue is to write a policy to describe how to deal with the issue. That is the "integrating" step.

Once complete, efficiencies can be seen to drastically improve as well as we will begin to see the corporation (our organization) running better!

BCHC NEEDS YOU!

By Michael King, Immediate Past President

Greetings, everyone!

I'm writing this article on behalf of the BCHC Nominating Committee comprised of past BCHC Presidents Lloyd Erlandson, Dennis Serpa, Chip Herzig and me.

Well, here we are at the middle of April, and you all know that means taxes. I've got to tell you April 15 isn't my favorite time of the year. Probably not yours either but at least we're all in the same boat on this one point.

So, diverting you from your painful thoughts and memories about taxes, I have, instead, good news of several volunteer opportunities opening for your consideration! Coming up in October, BCHC will be holding its semi-annual Board of Directors meeting where certain positions on the Executive Committee will be coming up for election by the Board of Directors. This year's open positions are 1st Vice President (handles insurance), Secretary, Vice President of Public Lands and BCHA National Directors.

Regarding the BCHA National Director positions, this year there is an anomaly in the customary staggered election process. Usually, one director would be up for re-election each year, however, due to the untimely and tragic passing of National Director Robert Anderson, the remaining year of his term will need to be filled in this election cycle. Therefore, two positions will be on the ballot.

Turnover in any organization is good as it brings in new and fresh ideas and different ways of looking at situations. Some of the current Executive Committee members have served several terms in their offices and are looking to retire. If new people step up, they could do just that.

This now brings us to you! If you are interested in serving, throw your hat in the ring. It's healthy for an organization to have new people step up and help lead BCHC into the future. Don't be bashful and wait to be asked, the Nominating Committee may not know you are interested. Just do it and let us know. We will all benefit from your decision.

The main qualifications are an interest and commitment to the job, a willingness to do the best you can, and have sufficient free time to do the job. No one can ask for more than that.

For whatever position interests you, please let Lloyd Erlandson, Dennis Serpa, Chip Herzig or me know, and we will provide you with a position/job description to look over so you would know your job duties. Here is our contact information:

Lloyd Erlandson – (209) 761-3942 or Lloyd.erlandson0@gmail.com

Dennis Serpa – (209) 848-4017 or (209) 531-5175 or

dmserpa@velociter.net

Chip Herzig – (775) 463-3634 or chipherzig@gmail.com

Michael King – (209) 606-8329 or mickngig@sbcglobal.net

Thank you for your consideration. Remember, change is good! We look forward to hearing from you.

BCHC STRATEGIC PLAN



THE SEVEN PRIORITY OBJECTIVES OF BCHC'S STRATEGIC PLAN

Seven objectives form the core of BCHC's strategic plan. In the plan, each objective is accompanied by a description of desired outcomes and an action plan units can follow to implement the objectives.

Each unit will negotiate its implementation selections and responsibilities after the strategic plan has been formally adopted by Board vote.

The seven objectives are:

1. Enable more trail maintenance and trail support projects
2. Make program of best practices available to local units
3. Rebuild Rendezvous attendance
4. Youth program development
5. New member development and retention
6. Website and social media transition
- 7. BCHC services available to local units**



HERE'S MORE DETAIL:

7. Priority Objective: BCHC Services available to local units

Success Measures: Usefulness and actual use of resources and materials (website data), attendance at classes, participation at events, etc.

Strategies - BCHC's 22 local units depend on important services offered by the State organization. Find ways to make these services highly visible, relevant to unit needs, and easy for unit leaders to access.

2020 Major Programs

- We will have representation from every unit at one of our North/Central Valley/South Unit Officer Trainings, to teach, to inspire and to share.
- Supporting units in their local fundraising efforts, to finance these services with Rendezvous and other funding sources.

BCHC State services to all units:

- Leave-No-Trace Master Trainers
- Insurance
- Website management
- Grant and sponsorship training for unit funding
- Sawyer Certification and safety programs
- Educational fund grants
- Membership rosters
- Dues reimbursement
- Officer training handbook
- Top hand awards

The current plan is to use the state website for distributing checklists and for access to most of these services.

For more information about BCHC's Strategic Plan, see your unit or state leaders.

2021 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Strategic Plan, #7 - BCHC Services Available to Local Units.

Response by Susie Patton, BCHC Secretary

Implementing this last objective in BCHC's Strategic Plan is the responsibility of statewide officers and board members.

Success Measures: Usefulness and actual use of resources and materials (website data), attendance at classes, participation at events, etc.

BCHC state leadership recognized that the BCHC website is not always user friendly. We are discussing ways to revamp the site to help members access the information they need. BCHC Policies will be added to the website so they can be easily referenced by units when they have questions. If you have ideas or comments to improve the website, please contact Webmaster Jacque Murphy at brennaluet@hotmail.com. BCHC state leadership would like to raise participation in classes and events. Your suggestions to improve participation are always welcome. Please send your ideas to BCHC State Secretary Susie Patton at bludog46@gmail.com.

Strategies: BCHC's 22 local units depend on important services offered by the State organization. Find ways to make these services highly visible, relevant to unit needs, and easy for unit leaders to access.

BCHC state leadership is working on better communications with units about services and providing information in a timelier manner. Two upcoming Executive Committee Zoom meetings are focused on these topics. More updated information should be available after the Summer Board Retreat in June. We also received great input on better ways to communicate from participants at the three 2022 Officer Training sessions.

2020 Major Programs

We will have representation from every unit at one of BCHC's North/Central Valley/South Unit Officer Trainings, to teach, to inspire and to share.

Unfortunately, several units chose not to attend Officer Training this year. The units who did attend, however, expressed their thanks for how much they learned, not only as officers, but also about how the BCHC organization operates and how the two sides of our organization (BCHC/c-4 and Education Fund/c-3) work together for the benefit of all BCHC members. It was interesting how each of the three training sessions took different

tracks and had varied questions.

Supporting units in their local fundraising efforts, to finance these services with Rendezvous and other funding sources.

Less than 10 percent of BCHC members participate in Rendezvous. Units are not stepping up to volunteer to host Rendezvous and BCHC state leadership is now looking at holding Rendezvous every other year. This, of course, reduces BCHC's operating budget as State income from Rendezvous would only be available/earned every other year. BCHC state leadership has committed to moving Rendezvous from south to central to north locations to attract more involvement without long travel. We are working on more grant programs to fund the work of BCHC.

Units need to research and explore venues in their areas that could be used for Rendezvous. There is much BCHC State leadership support to put on Rendezvous and, if you can join with two or three local units, you, too, can host a successful RendezvousCH and show off your area of the beautiful State of California.

BCHC State services to all units: *Please remember members of BCHC State leadership are all volunteers. They are not paid for their travel or expenses. If you have a State Officer in your unit, please explore the possibility of helping him with these expenses. Some units do this already, but some do not, and monetary support could increase the number of people willing to serve as BCHC State leaders.*

1. Leave No Trace Master Trainers

COVID put a damper on holding Leave No Trace Master Trainer classes. BCHC State leadership is currently setting up a class in 2022. Stacy Kuhns and Tom Firth are in charge. You can reach them at stacykuhns@aol.com or lecil_hadley@hotmail.com

2. Insurance

BCHC worked extremely hard this past year to find a new insurance program that better met our organization's needs and we were successful. The policy comes at a higher cost but is easier to navigate and has more flexibility for public days and no charge for additional insureds. BCHC State leadership felt we found the best, most equitable solution to pay this year's premium with the State paying one-half the cost

2021 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

From PLAN, page 9

and the units contributing one-half the cost through reduced membership rebates. The new policy went into effect April 1, 2022. If you are holding events with the public, you do not have to notify the insurance company. If you need a Certificate of Additional Insured, contact Jamie Wilson, 1st VP-Insurance and she will direct you how to apply. There will be no charge. Many events that required special policies are now covered, such as youth camps, public days, etc. Reminder: this is still third-party liability insurance; it does not cover your personal damage or loss. If you have questions, please contact Jamie at drjamie91@gmail.com.

3. Website Management

As mentioned above BCHC State leadership is working to update the BCHC website and make it more user friendly.

4. Grant and Sponsorship Training for Unit Funding

Many thanks go out to Lucy Badenhoop, Mother Lode Unit, who conducted a grant writing class at Rendezvous and shared her knowledge of how to write and receive grants. She also did a session during the Officer Training in Oroville. Thanks to Lucy's knowledge, state level BCHC and units should be able to acquire more grant funding. She has a booklet available to help you. To obtain a copy, contact Lucy at badenhoop@comcast.net. BCHC State leadership is exploring ways to advise units on how to approach sponsors and should have more information soon.

5. Sawyer Certification and Safety Programs

After some reorganization within BCHC's Saw Program, and with COVID restrictions being relaxed, BCHC is well on its way to holding more Saw classes. Mike Lewis is the new BCHC Saw Coordinator. You may contact him at stumblin155@gmail.com if your unit would like to hold a Saw Class. Several units have already scheduled classes for this spring.

6. Educational Fund Grants

The forms for applying for both State Ed Fund money and Unit Ed Fund money have been updated and are on the BCHC website. You need to complete the forms and send them to Stacy Kuhns at stacykuhns@aol.com for Grant Committee consideration. Your Unit Ed Fund money amount is sent to you monthly, or you may contact the BCHC VP of Membership Chip Herzig for the amount in your unit account at chipherzig@gmail.com

7. Membership Rosters

Membership reports are sent to your unit each month by the BCHC VP of Membership Chip Herzig. It is helpful if you select a person in your unit to welcome new members and contact expiring members to renew their membership. BCHC has a great membership booklet on its website to help you recruit and retain members.

8. Dues Reimbursement

Each month your unit may receive a portion of its membership dues back into your unit. This amount has been reduced for 2022 to pay for insurance. BCHC Treasurer Lynn Joiner is responsible for getting these checks to your unit. You may contact her at lynnjoiner7@gmail.com.

9. Officer Training Handbook

BCHC State leadership is happy to announce that the Officer Training Handbook has been completely revised. It is now the Officer Training and Resource Handbook and is available on the BCHC website. It took a lot of challenging work to update and includes a lot of new information. Thank you, Stacy Kuhns, for recognizing the need for a major revision of this manual. If you have comments about or suggestions for the Handbook, contact Stacy at stacykuhns@aol.com.

10. Top Hand Awards

Each year BCHC State leadership likes to recognize one person from each unit who has gone above and beyond to serve their unit. These awards are presented at Rendezvous or, in a year when BCHC does not hold a Rendezvous, the awards will be presented at the State Board meeting in October. It would be great if your award winner can attend to accept their award. The same goes for the Ann Lange Public Lands Award, the Education Awards and all other BCHC awards.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR SUMMER 2022 EDITION

of the Backcountry News is: **July 8, 2022**

Send submissions to:

BCHC Editor at BCHCNewsletter@gmail.com

EDUCATION

SO, YOU THINK YOU'RE A LEAVE NO TRACE EXPERT? TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE...

By Stacy Kuhns, BCHC VP of Education

1. Do I have to pack out toilet paper? Or is it okay to bury it?

Human waste, and what we do with it, can be a serious issue for public lands. There are over 100 bacteria, protozoans and viruses found in human feces that can cause illness and spreading disease. For over two decades, the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics (Center) has recommended the use of a cathole (6-8" deep hole dug 200' from water sources, campsites, and trails) for most backcountry situations. That recommendation has always included the following information, "Plan ahead to pack out the toilet paper with you in a plastic bag. This practice leaves the least impact on the area. Otherwise,

use as little as possible and bury it deeply in the cat hole." Many people are unfamiliar with the recommendation to leave the TP behind, buried in the hole. However, this recommendation is appropriate, and emerging research on the decomposition of buried TP supports this concept. Results from a one-year pilot study on the decomposition of buried TP indicates there was zero trace of the paper when buried in an 8-inch deep cathole. Though more research in other environments is warranted, the results support the idea that burying TP is ok. While packing TP out does lessen the impact of human waste, it's also perfectly acceptable to bury it deeply in the hole.

2. Do I really have to camp at least 200 feet from water sources?

The 200-foot camping setback from water was selected in the early 1990s by the Leave No Trace Program's Education Review Committee, a peer-review body composed of representatives of the federal land management agencies, scientists, Center staff, and organizations such as the National Outdoor Leadership School. As for many other educational practices, an appropriate "universal" number was selected that would be generally applicable to the diverse array of environmental settings that

occur nationally within protected natural areas. In some locations a 200-foot setback may not be necessary to protect surface waters, whereas in others it may be inadequate.

There are two primary reasons for the 200-foot Leave No Trace guideline: (1) to avoid or minimize pollution of surface waters, and 2) to facilitate wildlife access to water sources, particularly in arid environments. Promoting visitor solitude and minimizing recreational user conflict were other considerations. In more wet environments, wildlife access to water is not a concern and deeper soils with rich organic material and dense plant cover, particularly grasses and sedges, are able to filter water draining from riparian campsites when camping only 100 feet from water. Conversely, 200 feet could be inadequate in Colorado Plateau locations due to limited water sources for wildlife and the potential for human-introduced pollutants to enter water sources from rain events within extensive areas of slick rock or thin soils.

See LNT, page 16



BCHC Vice President of
Education
Stacy Kuhns



PUBLIC LANDS

PUBLIC LANDS UPDATE

By Troy Patton, VP Public Lands

LAKE TAHOE BASIN

Currently, e-bikes are only allowed on Forest Service trails in the Lake Tahoe Basin that allows motorized vehicles except for a few exceptions. The USDA Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) is developing a plan to expand e-bike access and trail system sustainability on National Forest System lands in the Lake Tahoe Basin. The Forest Service's office in Washington, D.C., said this week its internal guidance on how future e-bike use is managed on national forests and grasslands

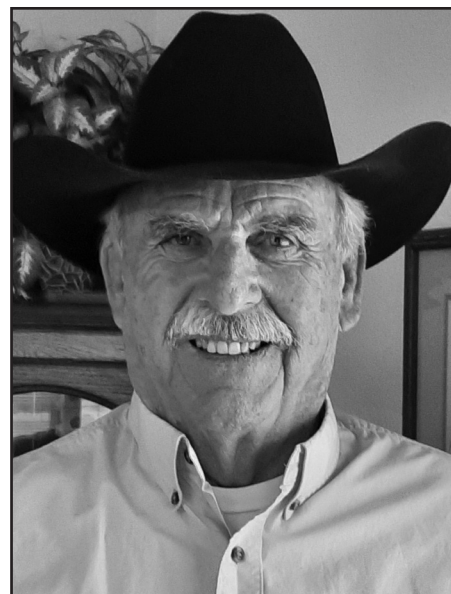
The final plan is expected to be approved and released by the end of summer 2022.

What this means to equestrians and hikers is that they will lose 120 miles of trails to e-bike and motorcycle use only. In return they get one mile of non-motorized trail. This does not seem like a fair, equitable division of trails. Hikers and equestrians are currently being squeezed out of the Tahoe Forest by big money lobbyists from the e-bike industry so they can create a market for their product and who are changing Forest Service policy, by using a Forest Supervisor, who appears to have a personal passion for electric bikes, to create a forest overrun by e-bikes.

What can we do? We need to watch the other Forests for this kind of e-bike takeover, especially Sierra and Sequoia that are rewriting their Management Plans and seeking approval right now. We need to contact Region 5, Washington, D.C., and the Department of the Interior about how the Tahoe National Forest is cutting access for other trails users to accommodate one specific user group who does not want to, and probably should not, share trails.

All of you need to watch for further information on how to contact the necessary people to express BCHC's issues with the Tahoe National Forest and Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit.

THE GREAT AMERICAN OUTDOORS ACT gave the USDA Forest Service new opportunities to deliver benefits to the American public through major investments in recreation infrastructure, public lands access, and land and water conservation. These investments improve outdoor recreation and contribute to economic growth and job creation in rural America. The Trump Administration worked with Congress to secure the passage of this landmark conservation legislation, which will use revenues from energy development to provide up to \$1.9 billion a year for five years in the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund to provide needed maintenance for critical facilities and infrastructure in our national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, recreation areas and American Indian schools. It will use royalties from offshore and onshore oil and natural gas as well as sustainable energy sites (wind, solar, geothermal) to permanently fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund to the tune of \$900 million a year to invest in conservation and recreation opportunities across the country. This allows the program to be funded without using taxpayer funds. Now that offshore drilling and all drilling on public lands has been suspended by the current administration, the funding may not be there for this program. This is going to mean that parts of this program may not get funding and we are going to have to monitor what happens. Instead of money being used to work on the backlog of trail maintenance, all or part of the money may be used to advance the 30 x 30 goals that are being pushed by the current administration. 30 x 30 – This is President Biden's and the Department of Interior's controversial plan to reduce the carbon footprint in the United States 30 percent by 2030. This is a sweeping plan that asks each county to formulate plans to accomplish. As counties across American work on this process, groups like BCHC will be asked to participate. Units should be cautious and carefully review what these plans entail. It



**BCHC Vice President
of Public Lands
Troy Patton**

has been finalized. This information from Washington directs managers to identify minimum road system needs for safe and efficient travel and for administration, utilization, and protection of NFS lands under the travel management rule (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/science-technology/travel-management>), which is what is currently underway.

The Basinwide project would alter the trail system map to allow Class 1 e-bikes on specific trails and clarify trails where motorized access is permitted. It would also upgrade road/trail crossings over streams and wet areas, and upgrade trailhead parking areas.

Proposed actions for the project:

- Change 87 miles from non-motorized trails to motorized trails open to Class 1 e-bikes only
- Change 1 mile from motorized use to motorized trails open to Class 1 e-bikes only (this action is associated with reroute of motorized use from E12 to E7/E5)
- Designate 4 miles of existing non-motorized trails as motorized, trails open to motorcycles only, seasonal
- Decommission approximately 3 miles of existing trails (these actions are associated with proposed trail reroutes)
- Construct 23 miles of multi-use trails that are designated as motorized trails open to Class 1 e-bikes only (6 of these total miles are associated with trail reroutes)
- Construct 1 mile of trail designated as non-motorized
- Construct 5 miles of new trails designated as motorized trails open to motorcycles only, seasonal
- Construct 3 new trailhead facilities
- Comply with USDA Forest Service, Tahoe Regional Planning Authority, and Lahontan Water Board Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Resource Protection Measures (RPMs) for trail and road maintenance, construction, and decommissioning activities.

BCHC PACKER INTERN PROGRAM

BCHC PACKER INTERN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

By Cindy McMurry, High Country Unit President

As I travel around the state keeping folks up to date on the status of the Packer Intern Scholarship Program, I am often asked by units, “What’s in it for us?”

So how does BCHC benefit from the Packer Intern Program? Here are just a few of the ways:

1. BCHC gets the opportunity to enhance and accelerate a young person’s career development.
2. BCHC provides another opportunity for the Forest Service and other federal agencies to recruit and train quality employees to replace retiring packers, thereby ensuring the Region 5 packing program continues.
3. BCHC helps the federal agencies develop career employees that will understand the importance of the packing program to stewarding public lands.
4. BCHC reaps the benefits of the agency packers’ expertise in moving trail crews and equipment to and from projects and their ability to provide essential support to fire crews working in Wilderness areas.
5. BCHC is developing advocates for BCHC within the agencies who will support our organization’s endeavors in the future.
6. BCHC is introducing the next generation to our organization’s principles and goals. BCHC gains packing knowledge from these highly trained professionals.
7. and I’m sure there are many more benefits that I am missing.

Katy Bartzokis, Shasta Trinity Center of Excellence, shared two documents that amazingly illustrate the positive differences Region 5 packers and their interns made to the stewardship of public lands in 2021. Both documents are great reads but, unfortunately, there is not enough room in this newspaper to print their many pages.

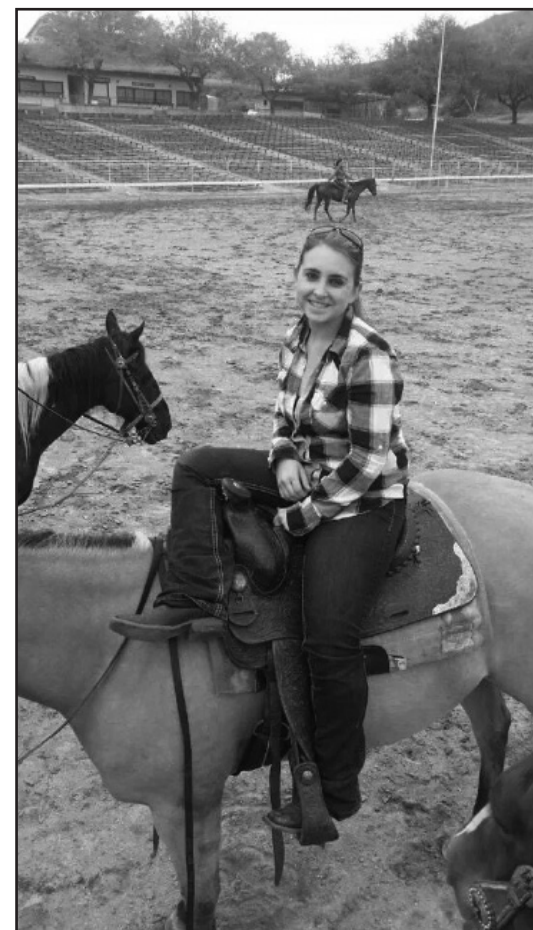
The first document, titled “2021 Accomplishments of the USFS R5 Packers and Pack Stock Center of Excellence” was posted on the BCHC Facebook page March 30, 2022, and may also be found at https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd990302.pdf. The BCHC-sponsored 2021 packing intern, Justin Giusti, is mentioned among the apprentices.

The second document, a trifold brochure published by the Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region in February 2021, is titled, “Pack Stock Center of Excellence; A resource for efficient and effective management of wilderness and other remote areas.” See <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/packstockcoe/home/?cid=fseprd517009>

There is also a fascinating 12-minute video titled “Pack Stock Center of Excellence, long version,” posted on YouTube. The video features Ken Graves, Katy Bartzokis, Michael Morse, Lee Roeser, and others and describes the innovative Center of Excellence program that honors Forest Service traditions while addressing current and future needs.

BAILEY MELLOW AWARDED BCHC PACKER INTERN SCHOLARSHIP

Sequoia Unit member selected 2022 Intern



Let me introduce myself, my name is Bailey Mello, I am 28 years old, and I was born and raised in Porterville, California. I have always been drawn to animals. I started out in Springville 4-H showing horses, dairy goats, sheep, pigs, and chickens with numerous other non-animal projects. When I was in high school, I joined Strathmore FFA where I continued showing. I expanded from 4-H and FFA and ran for Miss Springville Rodeo where I was 1st Runner Up and Miss Congeniality.

Apart from 4-H, FFA and rodeos, I have been packing into the backcountry with my family since I was about 7 years old, both for vacations and as BCHC members of Sequoia Unit. As an adult I have become more involved in the unit by becoming the Newsletter Editor and Treasurer.

Animals have always been a huge part of my life whether I was showing them or just caring for my own pets. My husband and I have two horses, “Jack” and our newest member “Rivenna,” who is 2 months old. We also have two dogs, “Tonks” and “Farrah.”

I am super excited for the opportunity I have been given to represent the BCHC. I am excited to not only learn a lot and meet new people, but to also be representing not only the state but my local unit as well.



MID VALLEY UNIT TEAMS UP WITH EQ

By Carl Perry



Mid Valley Unit has held two events at the beautiful facility of the Horses of Warriors (HOW). Jamie Franklin is the founder and president of this organization, the purpose of which is to provide veterans and first responders an opportunity to rebuild their ability to connect with themselves and others. HOW instills self-acceptance and helps participants regain a sense of self worth and purpose in life. This unique therapeutic approach using horses as a catalyst for emotional growth has saved many troubled PTSD veterans and first responders. Horses have shown to be effective in treating those who suffer from PTSD, depression, anxiety, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, and other chronic mental illnesses. HOW, through many generous donations, has provided a facility free of charge to help people identify patterns and reexamine their usefulness. They facilitate a non-threatening environment for these men and women to try out new behaviors and receive instant feedback. This facility has given veterans and first responders a new outlook on life with an opportunity to learn how to ride and care for horses. Mid Valley Unit members are proud that HOW has allowed us to join them with this challenging and rewarding healing.

Representatives of Mid Valley Unit approached Jamie Franklin and asked him if he would allow us to teach his veterans and first responders how to pack mules and horses. Franklin was excited and willing to provide us with the use of his organization's new arena as a pack clinic. On June 5, 2021, our plans became reality. We combined the pack clinic with a Dutch oven lunch for the participants. There were 12 attendants who listened intently to our first presentation. Dave Moser talked about how to care for your horses in the mountains and how to safely rig up a high line. He demonstrated different

types of tree wraps and how not to scar the trees. He also stressed the importance of keeping the high line up above the heads of the animals. Many questions followed as participants had no previous backcountry or wilderness experience. Many of the unit's experienced packers told stories about the dos and don'ts when it comes to grazing and high lining.

Next, we went into the arena and taught the art of saddling pack mules correctly. First, we introduced them to the pack saddle and the names of all the parts. Then we correctly placed the double blankets and pack saddle on a live mule. We showed participants there are many ways to tie latigo cinches. We provided many scenarios of what could go wrong. The question-and-answer period was intense as participants' curiosity was extreme. We tied a box hitch for the whole group to get an idea of how to build one. We finally reached a decision to get started with the actual packing. We had nine trainers: Barbara Riner (former Intercollegiate World Champion Packer), Lloyd Erlandson (retired commercial packer), Jim Westmoreland (backcountry packing specialist), Dave Moser (Forest Service trail crew packer), Kathy Rhode (World Champion Packer and packing judge), Doug Dollarhide (Mid Valley Unit President and backcountry packer), me and two members of our 2021 Mid Valley Unit-sponsored MJC Bishop pack team, Blake Tobler, and Cody Andrews. There were eight mules tied around the arena floor with plenty of space between them. The "hands on" training was informative since this was participants' first experience. We rotated instructors to demonstrate different styles of creating the box hitch. This way participants could create their own personal style. When the class concluded, their individual success had been achieved.



Packing mules in the arena

VINE THERAPEUTIC RIDING FACILITY



High line and tree saver instruction



One of the best parts of Backcountry Horsemen is Dutch oven cooking. We always save the best for last! (To be honest, the reason I joined BCHC was the scrumptious desserts.) That day we invited the entire HOW crew to enjoy lunch with all participants and instructors. There were approximately 45 hungry people who relished the food and desserts. Jamie Franklin was overwhelmed with the delicious peach cobbler. We had nine Dutch oven cooks, many of whom prepared two dishes. This was an event never to be forgotten for everyone.

April 1-3, we partnered up again with the Horses of Warriors to use their spacious ranch. This time we hosted the unit's Spring Campout. I couldn't imagine the hospitality the organization offered us such as flattening some areas with a small caterpillar, installing two culverts to cross natural springs, grating roadways so that our rigs wouldn't bottom out, bringing a load of fire wood right to the campfire site, pounding stakes and securing solar lights with remote controls to them, purchasing and spreading five loads of rock to insure we didn't get stuck and delivering 300 gallons of fresh water for the horses.

On Saturday morning we had an educational packing class. Four of our intercollegiate packers taught interested folks. Instructors were Cody Andrews, Cheyenne Mason, Ashley Stott, and Garrett Dollarhide. We had two mules saddled and our packers became teachers. I believe these students really enjoyed explaining how the knot is created and becoming a teacher rather than a competitor.

Mid Valley Unit's Spring Campout is a family outing with activities for children. It usually entails short rides for folks who just want to ride and leg up their horses. Some ride with their children or, in this case, grandchildren. We conduct a piñata breaking, ice cream social and corn hole games. Even the adults turn into big "children." I saw adults picking up piñata candy. (Sometimes you need to incorporate a little pleasure with the work that we do.) There were 40 people in attendance. The Saturday night potluck is always a big hit. The Dutch ovens were again at work with most of our cooks masterminding two dishes. There was plenty of great home-cooked food and delectable desserts. After dinner, s'mores sticks surrounded the fire and chocolate bars were ready to melt on hot marshmallows and graham crackers. Our favorite DJ and member, Lance Kell, was there with his country western music. It was like a karaoke night as Lance passed the mic around and many demonstrated their talents. We invited the whole HOW crew to enjoy dinner and desserts with us again. We passed the hat to thank the HOW crew for the catering and the cooperation toward our organization. I would like to thank our generous members for their donations to the Horses of Warriors as the facility was free of charge to us.

EDUCATION

From PUBLIC LANDS, page 12

might sound like they are improving trails but look very deeply into what they want to accomplish. (Just a reminder that BCHC units and individual members may not use the BCHC logo with permission of the Executive Committee.)

I have served as the VP of Public Lands for two terms and according to BCHC Bylaws, in October the job will be open to nomination and election. This job requires attendance at three State BCHC meetings per year, six to eight Zoom meetings and, in even-numbered years, three Officer Training sessions hosted in the south, central and northern regions of the state. (This year in Temecula, Bakersfield, and Oroville.) This is a volunteer position and there is no reimbursement from BCHC for travel. You travel at your own expense. In addition, you should expect to spend a minimum of 5 to 10 hours per week reading government documents and proposals, tracking legislation, and trying to get in on the ground floor of various proposals. During the Forest Plan Update cycle, you may need to attend Forest Service meetings in various areas also. As an example, at the present time the Sierra and Sequoia Forests have a draft plan out for review. I have started reviewing this and this fall we will have one more opportunity for comment before it is finalized.

If you have questions or comments, please contact me outdoortroy46@gmail.com or (760) 764-2850.



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of the Backcountry News is: **July 8, 2022**

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BCHC Editor at BCHCNewsletter@gmail.com

THANK YOU!

From LNT, page 11

The Leave No Trace program generally sought to err on the side of resource protection, while seeking to provide educational consistency by establishing a universal distance to guide campers in their decision-making regardless of the location or environment.

3. Okay, I have all my food and trash securely stored – but it’s okay to keep my lip balm in the tent overnight, right?

Wild animals are attracted not just to human, pet, or food for pack animals but also to trash and other “smellables,” such as drink containers, dirty dishes, insect repellent, medicines, first aid kits, cosmetics, lip balm, lotions, soaps, toothpaste, deodorant, and other toiletries. Animals are even attracted to sealed unopened human foods.

Wild animals have a substantially better sense of smell than humans do. Such traits have evolved over time as a survival mechanism. A black bear’s sense of smell has been calculated to be roughly 2,000 times better than a human’s. That lip balm in your tent? Yes, they smell that too.

Anything with a curious smell can attract all manner of wild animals, regardless of whether it’s appetizing or edible. Food, trash, and smellable storage methods vary considerably from one place to the next, so it’s always best to check with local land managers and arrive prepared to store your food and other smellable items securely.



This information and more about the Center for Outdoor Ethics Leave No Trace program may be found at Int.org

UNIT NEWS

MOTHER LODE UNIT:

GRAB-N-GO CART PROMOTES BCHC AT AERC EVENT

By Lucy Badenhoop

During the March 4-5 American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) in Sparks, Nevada, the Mother Lode Unit (MLU) introduced Backcountry Horsemen of California (BCHC) to endurance riders from all over the United States. Although attendance at the event was about 300, 60 riders from 13 states stopped to visit the BCHC booth:

Arizona (2)	Nevada (17)
California (24)	New Mexico (2)
Colorado (1)	North Dakota (1)
Florida (1)	Oregon (2)
Idaho (1)	Utah (1)
Kansas (1)	Washington (4)
Montana (1)	Wisconsin (2)

The 60 visitors were mostly in the retired age groups and only four were already BCH members. Here is the age breakdown of visitors to the BCHC booth:

10 thru 19 (1)	60 thru 69 (18)
20 thru 29 (1)	70 thru 79 (10)
30 thru 39 (3)	80 thru 89 (1)
40 thru 49 (7)	Total Seniors (14)
50 thru 59 (5)	

Two MLU volunteers drove the 250 miles from home, spent two nights in the host hotel, and manned the booth that promoted BCHC, BCHC, and MLU by explaining who we are and what we do. Topics included our Washington, D.C., lobby, campouts, sawyer trail work, pack support for other trail crews, training, and Leave No Trace (LNT) outdoor ethics. These subjects were supported with handouts such as membership applications, newsletters, flyers, etc. In addition, 300 LNT tags were included in the "goodie" bag provided to all convention attendees.

The display in the AERC booth was comprised of the materials in the MLU Grab-n-Go cart, designed to fit in a compact vehicle and transported/set up by one person in parking lots, public buildings, or a field. If conditions warrant it, any free-standing awning may be added. MLU acquired two Grab-n-Go carts and one awning using grant funds.

This AERC public education effort was supported by funding from multiple sources.

- MLU provided volunteers and their travel expenses.
- A current year BCHC grant provided the AERC booth rental and hotel room for the volunteers.
- A 2016 National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance (NWSA) grant provided for the purchase of the equipment for the Grab-n-Go carts and LNT tags, banners, and feather flags. MLU uses these carts/LNT materials multiple times every year.



UNIT NEWS

SAN DIEGO UNIT:

GREEN VALLEY HORSE CAMP IMPROVED FOR EQUESTRIANS

By Terry Jorgenson

March 2022 found the San Diego Unit involved in its first service project of the year at Green Valley Horse Camp in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. The horse camp was redesigned and built from an older group camp for the equestrian camper after the loss of the Los Caballo Horse Camp in the 2003 Cedar Fire. Due to a variety of restrictions, many of the campsites were difficult for larger horse trailers to access conveniently. In working with the State Park Superintendent, the San Diego Unit was able to go in, fine tune and enlarge parking sites to a depth of approximately 50 feet and a width of 12 to 14 feet. Road base in the trailer parking area was then packed and leveled. The corrals received adequate decomposed granite (DG) to fill holes and smooth out the surface. In total, we were able to improve the sites so there is a site available for any size horse trailer now. We completed trimming up many of the trees and spin-trimmed the entire grass area.

As is our tradition, Bill and Marcia Moser were there, providing their wonderful Dutch over dinners and breakfast for everyone. Thank you, Bill and Marcia.

Green Valley Horse Camp has a total of 15 sites, two of which are ADA sites situated on a large cement base with an ADA fire pit and picnic table. All the sites have two corrals with an additional four corrals in the center for extra horses, in addition to a fire ring and picnic table. A large round pen is available for equestrians to use. The bathroom building has two showers and two large bathrooms. (The showers require quarters to function.) There are many large oak trees throughout the camp to provide shade to most of the sites.

You can access all the trails and connector trails on the west side of the park or ride under the Sweetwater River bridge and then access all the trails on the east side of the park.

This was a great service project and provides a big improvement for equestrians. You can make reservations on the State Parks website (reservcalifornia.com), select Cuyamaca Rancho State Park and follow the prompts for the equestrian camp at Green Valley.



UNIT NEWS

EASTERN SIERRA UNIT:

GROWING AND TEACHING

By Troy Patton, ESU President

Eastern Sierra is growing and has added 20 new members in the last few months. Many thanks to Anna Baglione as she has been spreading the word around the Eastern Sierra packers that they should join our group.

We have also been holding small packing clinics each Sunday since January. These are informal, basic packing skills on iron mules. Eastern Sierra members Anna Baglione, Colin Vaughn, Mariah Keuler, Bill Carter, and Troy Patton have been bringing iron mules, pack saddles and loads to practice on. We have had anywhere from 6 to 12 people show up and try their hand at loading up packs, tying hitches, etc. Some are old hands who packed years ago, and we have two young girls who have blown us all away with their ability to pack and tie hitches. We have taught both the box and diamond hitch, shown how to put up a high line, demonstrated how to pack bulky tools and even packed on live mules.

The Eastern Sierra Unit will be holding a Trot-a-Thon Fundraiser, April 30, and will be hosting the BCHC booth at Mule Days with crosscut saw demos, packing demos and some activities for the kids.

Add our youth clinic to your list of fun, must-do events during Bishop Mule Days Celebration!



YOUTH PACKING CLINIC AT MULE DAYS

By Anna Baglione

Backcountry Horsemen of California Eastern Sierra Unit (ESU) formally invites the public to join us for a youth packing clinic to be held during the 52nd annual Bishop Mule Days Celebration. The clinic is planned to be held on Thursday, May 26, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the clinician's arena. ESU members Mariah Keuler and Anna Baglione will be presenting the clinic.

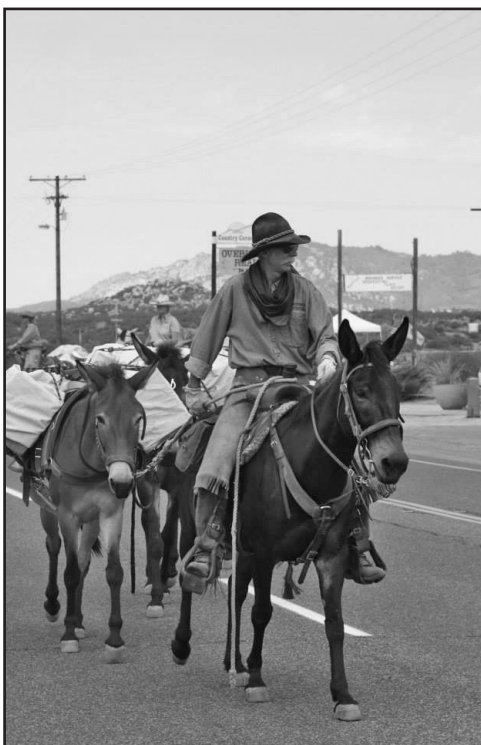
This comprehensive clinic will focus on the basics of sawbuck saddle anatomy, safe stock handling, packing equipment best practices, tying the box hitch, and building loads to go down the trail, in a manner specifically focused on youth packers. One of the primary goals of ESU's youth program is preparing for and executing beginner or youth pack trips oriented around Leave No Trace principles.



WELCOME BACK, MIKE LEWIS!

Mike Lewis recently returned to the BCHC Saw Coordinator position, an assignment he capably carried out in the past. As part of his responsibilities, Mike serves on the Safety Committee as well as the Sawyer Steering Committee. He is both Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw certified.

A resident of Anza, California, Mike is an active member of Redshank Riders Unit, currently serving as its President. In addition to countless unit activities, Mike also serves on the state level Rendezvous Stewardship Committee. Congratulations, Mike!



UNIT NEWS

SHASTA TRINITY UNIT:

FISH PLANTING

By Larry Shuman

The Shasta Trinity Unit for years planted fingerling trout in the lakes located in the Trinity Alps Wilderness. We lost those lakes to endangered frogs about seven years ago and until more studies are completed by the California Fish and Wildlife (F&W), fish plants there will not be resumed. The studies, when completed, will (hopefully) bring back some of the lakes we historically planted with trout.



In 2019, Shasta Trinity Unit was approached by F&W to see if we would like to plant trout in the Caribou Wilderness Lakes, seven lakes total. Of course, we said yes! Well, it did not go as planned. We approached the fish plant the same way we planted trout in the Trinity Alps. We lost a good percentage of fish because the lakes are warmer and not high alpine as in the Trinity Alps. That did not deter us or F&W, however. We discussed changes and in 2020 we planted the



same seven lakes and lost less than 0.5 percent of the fish distributed in the lakes. Our changes worked.

With this success, F&W asked if Shasta Trinity Unit could handle 18 lakes in the Caribou Wilderness. Again, we said yes. This upped the amount of planning and logistics significantly. We planned for three days of planting over a two-week period. We successfully planted 37,900+ fingerling trout in 18 lakes with very little loss. In some lakes we lost only 1 or 2 out of 1,000 or more planted. To accomplish this required 37 pack stock days with seven packers and 10 to 12 others helping with the logistics. But let me tell you, we had a lot of fun. It was successful, with no incidents, and great food and fellowship.



In 2022, F&W, at our unit's request, has added three more lakes in Thousand Lakes Wilderness to the list. This and the fact that the wildfires went through most of the Caribou Wilderness will add more work to accomplish a successful plant in 2022. We will need to assess

the lakes and trails as soon as possible when the snow melts to see what it will take to plant in 2022. Right now, we are allotted 45,000 trout and plan to use 47 pack stock days with four days of planting over a three-week period. Of course, this may change as we get closer and look at conditions of trails and lakes.

We are really looking forward to this year's fish plant. We would like to invite any BCHA/BCHC member to contact Larry Shuman at (530) 526-0590 if you would like to help with this major project.

TOP OF THE STATE UNIT:

BIG CROWD ENJOYS RETURN OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

By Michele Machado

For the first time since 2019, the Top of the State Unit gathered for its annual Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and the start of spring. On March 12, more than 60 members and family members gathered for a catered dinner at the Fort Jones Community Center in Fort Jones, California. Siskiyou County caterers Dave and Kathy Tyler prepared an excellent meal that had everyone raving.

It was a great night of visiting and catching up with old and new friends. Five members of the Shasta Trinity Unit joined us, including Larry Shuman, who presented a plaque to longtime Top of the State member and leader, John Lyons, to honor his many years of service to BCHC.

The event featured both a live dessert auction and a silent auction, each of which was a success, especially when the people who bought the desserts shared them with their tables! We also live-auctioned a new form-fitters pack saddle from Outfitters Pack Station (Weiser, Idaho). Alan Woods had the winning bid (\$500) for this saddle, which came complete with britchen, breast collar and buckle covers.



Rose and Larry Shuman, Shasta Trinity Unit, present John Lyons, Top of the State Unit (second from left), with a plaque to honor his many years of service to BCHC. Gail Lyons (far right) looks on.

UNIT NEWS

HIGH COUNTRY UNIT:



Pack clinic group photo, left to right; Royce, Austin, Melody, Rex, Cindy, George, Melissa, Abby and Sam. Down in front is Hayes

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Integrity

SHASTA TRINITY AND HIGH COUNTRY UNITS INTRODUCE 4H TO PACKING

By Cindy McMurry, High Country Unit President

On a beautiful early April Saturday, Sam Burrows and George Archer from the Shasta Trinity Unit and Cindy McMurry from the High Country Unit met with kids from the Providence 4H of Adin and Evergreen 4H of McArthur to learn about BCHC and packing.

We were hosted by Eddie and Shannon Ginocchio at their beautiful ranch in Stone Coal Valley. Seven kids ranging from 8 to 17 years of age and four adults spent several hours becoming familiar with several types of pack saddles and all the equipment that goes with them.

We began the afternoon with a brief introduction of Leave No Trace concepts and then jumped right in with hands on practice. The kids and their moms had the opportunity to load three different types of pack saddles with three different types of loads, then practice tying the box hitch, diamond hitch and double diamond hitch. They also had the opportunity to explore setting up a high line system.

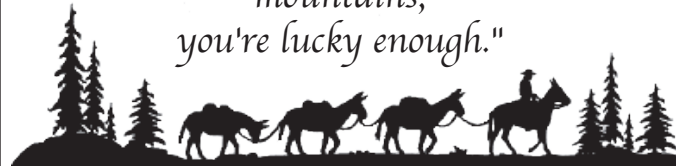
Sam, George and Cindy shared some of their experiences and adventures in the back country and how they ended up involved in BCHC.

We had a great time and all the kids jumped right in and participated in all three stations. The kids were really enthusiastic about continuing their training and eventually taking an overnight pack trip.

What a fun and inspiring afternoon with a great bunch of kids!

\$1,000 donation made by Mid Valley Unit member Terri Arington in memory of her late husband Ron ("RA") Arington. Ron was a longtime Ag teacher at Sonora High School. He was passionate about the back country, his horses and mules, his students and his wife.

"If you're lucky enough to be in the mountains, you're lucky enough."



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NATIONAL BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

By Terry Jorgenson

The BCHA National Board of Directors met in Kansas City, Missouri, April 10 to 13. There were 92 Back Country Horsemen representing all but two of the State Chapters. We gathered to share ideas, our successes and some things that did not go as well as planned. Together we learned from each other how other State Chapters tackle public lands issues and some of the great service projects that were completed.

The formal business of the organization was conducted by Chairman, Sherry Copeland, with directors voting on several issues.

Between sessions the directors had an opportunity to network with other directors and new friendships were made and old ones renewed as the past two years the National Board of Directors met via Zoom. While Zoom has been a big help in keeping State Chapters up to date on issues, it's just not the same as sitting in a room face-to-face with other Back Country Horsemen.

This was my first time being at the national meeting and while it was a bit overwhelming, I learned a great deal about the organization on a whole different level.

Next year will be the 50th anniversary of BCHA and the National Board of Directors will return to where it all started in the state of Montana.



BCH Montana's Brad Pollman (in black hat) receives the Double Diamond Award.

The Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) National Board established this special annual award in 2003. This award is presented to BCHA units for exceptional volunteer projects and/or educational programs completed during the previous year. The efforts eligible for recognition can include, but are not limited to, trail maintenance, trail construction, trailhead construction, educational programs, and youth programs.

DON'T FORGET!

BCHA only mails ONE print edition of its newspaper each year. To read the digital version of the Spring 2022 edition, go to bcha.org, click on "Member Home" then "News" then "Newsletter."

Be sure to check out the BCHA website, bchcalifornia.org! If you're not a member of Backcountry Horsemen of California, much of the information you'll be looking for will be available in this area.

If you are a member and are looking for more information about running your unit, newsletters, forms, volunteer hours, Wilderness Riders, etc., please click the gray "Member Site" button.

As always, I am happy to help you with any questions, updates, or requests about our website. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook too: [@BackcountryHorsemenofCalifornia](https://www.facebook.com/BackcountryHorsemenofCalifornia).

~ Jacque Murphy
BCHA Webmule



**BCHA Webmule
Jacque Murphy**



A presentation during the BCHA National Board Meeting held in Kansas City, Missouri, April 10-13.

OTHER NEWS

USING NON-LEAD AMMUNITION TO BENEFIT YOUR HUNT (AND WILDLIFE)

By Andrew Clare, Hunting and Conservation Outreach Coordinator, Great Basin Institute, Ventura Office

(The Great Basin Institute advances environmental research, education, and service throughout the west. The institute promotes applied research and ecological literacy through community engagement and agency partnerships to support national parks, forests, open spaces and public lands.

The beauty of the backcountry - the scenic views, the untouched nature teeming with wildlife - is the reward for pushing just a little bit further and putting in the extra preparation to get there. It is why horsemen are taught the principles of Leave No Trace and appropriate use of lands before even touching a saddle. Packing to minimize waste benefits the trip and the ecosystem traveled through.

Backcountry hunters in California continue to seek wildlife further away from human contact but, as of July 2019, do it with a new directive: all hunts and take of wildlife in state are required to use non-lead ammunition. Firearms users voiced their questions and concerns as 2020 brought nationwide ammunition shortages from a surge of new gun owners and surplus buying. Through it all, hunting, pest control and dispatching livestock were carried on in larger numbers than before.

Lead is considered a “metal of antiquity.” Humans have a long history of using it to manufacture projectiles long before modern bullets were conceived. Lead is soft, malleable, dense, and easily smelted in comparison to most metals but ancient humans also identified the potential harm that came from exposure to it. In living organisms, lead has the unique ability to mimic calcium molecules and cause a host of neurological issues, persistent poor health, even death.

Humans living in industrialized settings can be exposed to lead by several sources but the most readily available source of lead for scavenging wildlife comes from fragments in unrecovered game or the gut piles of a successful hunt. A single lead-core centerfire bullet can fragment up to 400 times. The smallest fragments are nearly undetectable to a scavenger, therefore are most likely to be ingested. The harm to the California condor has been well publicized but the adverse effects to bald eagles, golden eagles, and a number of other birds of prey are less frequently discussed. These species commonly carry elevated levels of lead in their blood from consuming the spoils of a hunt. If hunting is done with non-lead, however, there is no exposure to harmful fragments.

Waterfowl shooters nationwide already saw this shift in the early part of the '90s when it was made clear that the lead shot built up in wetlands was being ingested by the very wildlife they pursued. They had a very limited set of options for their scatterguns but adapted and

continued the hunt. Shotguns are now proofed for higher pressures and harder metals, allowing for ever-expanding offerings. As a result of these changes, millions of waterfowl are saved from lead poisoning each year.

Fortunately, today's shotshells using steel, bismuth and tungsten (listed from least to most dense, as well least to most expensive) perform as well as or better than similar lead options. Patterning takes a big step toward improving that performance. A different shot size may be needed for the target species, a different choke may be used, or the leading distance may change in front of a bird on the wing, but shooters using non-lead game loads on moving clays can overcome these differences rather quickly.

Non-lead bullets are mainly created from copper (another metal of antiquity) in centerfire or rimfire rifles. The monolithic design formed from a single piece of copper is much newer on the scene but was designed primarily for better weight retention and penetration on tough big game species. Copper bullets may come with a polymer tip to improve accuracy and expansion of their copper petals, or have an exposed hollow point, or may be designed with tips that fracture to create a more devastating blow but are all manufactured to consistently expand and release their energy on target. The difference between densities of lead and copper leads to altered flight paths, requiring sighting in as you do with any new load. Research and testing will show which work best for your hunting needs and with your unique barrel.

Well, how about target shooting? How about traditional black powder and cowboy action shooters? If you are taking part in these disciplines strictly at targets or a gun range in California, carry on knowing that your gun and ammunition purchases have helped fund massive wildlife, hunting and public lands improvements through the Pittman-Robertson Act.

If you are pursuing game with a traditional muzzle-loader, you may switch to smelting bismuth roundballs or embrace the newer non-lead slugs if your rifle is rated for harder metals. For those managing nuisance species or harvesting furbearers, an appropriately sized round may be available as a frangible. Non-lead frangibles are copper-jacketed and filled mainly with powdered copper alloy core to create a single entrance and release their energy rapidly. There are options for nearly every firearm (and air rifles, too), so have fun with the testing process and keep an eye out for what you need far ahead of your season to avoid shortages.

For more information and to see how you can minimize your impact, visit Huntingwithnonlead.org. With a little preparation and practice using non-lead rounds, you can be certain that you take only clean shots and leave only clean food for the amazing wildlife you see on your next journey.

Recognition of Special Individuals

Benefactor funds are used in a variety of ways to support BCHC's Public Lands activities. Uses of Benefactor funds may include but are not limited to hiring consultants to perform in-depth reviews, financing special studies and reports, and reducing out-of-pocket travel expenses for those who testify at state and federal hearings.

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS, 1/24/2022 through 4/15/2022

THANK YOU!

BENEFACTOR (\$100)

Eastern Sierra	Bill Carter Troy Patton Sally Taylor
High Sierra	Ruth Gerson Nancy Hamill Jacob Hamstra Karl Pendegraft
Kern Sierra	Brad Allen, Rosedale Farrier Supply Mylon Filkins, DVM Larry Mumford
Lake-Mendo Los Padres	Tim Holliday Kaye Bruns Robin Cederlof William Chaides Eve Devine Laura D. Wimer
Mid Valley	Tony Alamo Karen Barindelli Jay Barnes Gary A. Cain Bob Cooper Carol Jo Hargreaves Rian Hudson Debra Lewis Bob Magee John V. Marshall Jennifer Marshall MID VALLEY UNIT Randy Powell John Schaapman
Mother Lode	Tom Cooper Donna Jones Furlow Jaede Miloslavich Stephanie Williams
North Bay Redshank Riders Redwood	Lynn Cominsky Ron Robertson Darrel and Carole Polasek

BENEFACTOR (\$100), continued

San Diego	Lee Kelly-Gillen Walt J. Kirkwood Lynda Sterns
San Joaquin Sierra	John Cunningham Larry Nishma Knapp-Yosemite Trls Pk Sta Stephen Naylor
Sequoia	Frank Schlitz Jan Walker Jamie Wilson, DVM
Shasta Trinity	Lyle Charter Ken Hartman Lori Henderson

PATRON (\$250)

High Country High Sierra	Lynn Saunders Richard Cochran Trish Pendegraft Sonia Shepard McLellan
Kern Sierra	Willi Coeler Lynn Joiner Clint Hanks
Lake-Mendo Los Padres Mid Valley San Diego Sequoia	Otis Calef David Kraft David Roy Chevallier Kathryn C. Bennett Jim Holly
Shasta Trinity Sutter Buttes	Bruce McGowan Jerry Walters

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Eastern Sierra	Sarah C. Sheehan
Kern Sierra	Roger Whitaker
Los Padres	Lisa Shinn
Mid Valley	Terri Arington Lloyd Erlandson Dennis M. Serpa
Pacific Crest	Craig Bugajski
Redshank Riders	Allison Renck
Shasta Trinity	Dean Angelides

DID YOU KNOW? The annual BCHC Rendezvous is a primary fundraiser for our organization. It helps pay for day-to-day operational expenses such as production and distribution of this newsletter.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

We look forward to meeting you!

**The following new members joined BCHC from
1/24/2022 through 4/15/2022**

Antelope Valley Eastern Sierra	Patricia Keiser Richard and Tara Lancaster Sally Taylor Kelly Kate Warren
High Country High Sierra	Natalie Miller-Hill and Leon Hill Brian Cody and Kim Hinds Debbie and Michael Donnelly Kathy Hodson, Megan Stagner & Cezanne West Antonis and Maritza Konnaris Brody McAvoy Janis Schmidt Patti Welker
Kern River Valley Kern Sierra	Karen and Gabriel Molina McKenna and Katie Carver Pamela Walker
Lake-Mendo Mid Valley	Tuesday McAsey Scott and Danielle Colquhoun Dawn Dochow Garrett Dollarhide Pam and Dan Fogg Sandra Gebo Rylee Lewis Nalani Pacheco Chloe Pascarella Marilyn R. Russell Wendy and Steven Scott Allison Sousa
Mother Lode	Leslie Lockhart Bisharat Jaci Crowley and Tedd Barnum Nancy DeGan Dawn and Michael Elliott President, Gold Country Trails Council Jamie Seaton and Justin Pullin Mary Taylor
North Bay	Rudy Agullar Erik Beer Michael Carroll Lisa DeCarbo and Dan Blake Leonard Holly Emily Kohl Brandon Krebs Joseph Lishka Miguel Nieto, Jr. Jim Spencer Steven Wetherbee
Redshank Riders	Pamela and Tyler Hansen Mary Anne Turner Keith Wheeler and Lillian Peters
Redwood	Laura Howe Alita and Molly Sutherland

San Diego	Keith and Diane Carter Harry S. Lodge Mary Johnson Powell Tina Robinson Brandy and Andrew Sorbie
San Joaquin Sierra	Sue Buckley Charity, Kevin, Bailey & Magnus Doherty Jani and Boyd Goins Loni Langdon and Zachary Montgomery
Shasta Trinity	Deana, Zachary, Blake, Axel & Landon Drake Jules and Terri Marchesseault Jack Safford Audrey, Ryan, Brynja & Hildi Tarbell
Sierra Freepackers	Anette and Pascal Deneuve Penelope Jefferson Jennifer & Robert Tomaszewski and Nellie Colvard-Preston
Top of the State	Dylan Berryhill

TO JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE

1. Fill out the ONLINE MEMBERSHIP FORM, save it and print a copy for your records.
2. Submit the online form. A copy will be sent to Chip Herzig, VP of Membership. **IMPORTANT:** Youth Memberships **MUST** also print, sign, and mail these forms. Youth memberships will **NOT** be valid until the forms are received.
3. Pay with your Paypal

TO JOIN OR RENEW BY MAIL

1. Fill out the MEMBERSHIP FORM on page 23, make a copy for your records. **IMPORTANT:** Youth Memberships **MUST** also print, sign, and mail these forms. Youth memberships will **NOT** be valid until the forms are received.
2. Mail the completed form(s) and check* to:

Chip Herzig
BCHC Membership
1280 State Rte 208
Yerington, NV 89447

*Please make checks payable to Backcountry Horsemen of California.
You may also pay via Paypal.

BCHC Units Around the State

ANTELOPE VALLEY

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Marcy Watton
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HorsingRound@aol.com

EASTERN SIERRA

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Troy Patton
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HIGH SIERRA

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feinberg.greg@gmail.com

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Gail Inman
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Patricia Vallentyne
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Gary Paul
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muleguy54@gmail.com

TOP OF THE STATE

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www.bchc-tos.com
Michele Machado
(817) 308-0258
meechele418@gmail.com

Questions? Membership Matters

BCHC VP of Membership is
Chip Herzig.

He will be happy to address
your questions or concerns.

Chip may be reached
Monday through Friday.

By mail: BCHC Membership
1280 State Rt 208
Yerington, NV 89447

Email: chipherzig@gmail.com

Phone: (775) 463-3634

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REMEMBER

Send your membership renewals to VP of
Membership Chip Herzig. **DO NOT SEND THEM
TO BCHA.** Sending to the wrong place will delay
payment and cause your membership to show as
expired so you cannot participate in unit events.

MEMBERSHIP

**Backcountry Horsemen
of California**



**MAIL TO: BCHC
MEMBERSHIP
1280 State Rt. 208
Yerington, NV 89447**

**MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION**

New Renewal
 Change

PARENT UNIT AFFILIATION: (Select and CHECK a Unit as your Affiliation)

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antelope Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake-Mendo | <input type="checkbox"/> Redshank Riders | <input type="checkbox"/> Shasta Trinity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Sierra | <input type="checkbox"/> Los Padres | <input type="checkbox"/> Redwood | <input type="checkbox"/> Sierra Freepackers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Country | <input type="checkbox"/> Mid Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> San Diego | <input type="checkbox"/> Sutter Buttes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Sierra | <input type="checkbox"/> Motherlode | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin Sierra | <input type="checkbox"/> Top of the State |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kern River Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> North Bay | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Ana River | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kern Sierra | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Crest | <input type="checkbox"/> Sequoia | |

DCTR (Your Membership Number): _____

MEMBER'S NAME - No Business Names, Print Clearly SPOUSE/CO-MEMBER'S NAME - MUST SHARE SAME ADDRESS

Street Address/PO Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code (full 9 digits if known) _____ Area Code _____ Phone Number _____

Email Address: _____

Donation to BCHC Education Fund (Tax deductible) \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____ Check No. _____

Parent Unit Membership Types (Check One)

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Individual \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Family \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult (18-25 years old) \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$100
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Individual \$90	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Family \$110	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth (12-17 years old) \$15*	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$250
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Year Individual \$125	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Year Family \$150	*Youth members MUST fill out BOTH Youth Membership forms (available online)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mt. Whitney \$500			

Associate Memberships: An Additional \$15 PER UNIT is added to your Parent Unit Dues
Associate Memberships Unit Affiliations MAY NOT BE FOR THE SAME UNIT AS YOUR PARENT UNIT

Associate Membership for: _____ \$15/Unit
Unit Name (from above list)

Associate Membership for: _____ \$15/Unit
Unit Name (from above list)

_____ Add additional choices here

Please clip form along dashed line and keep the below portion 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 if for two adults with differing last names who share 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.

Youth Memberships
Youth Memberships MUST be accompanied by a signed Youth Membership Permission Release and Youth Parent Permission Form. A Youth Membership is NOT valid until BCHC or the Parent Unit has received signed copies of these forms.

Complete information regarding BCHC Membership is available on the MEMBERSHIP TAB at bchcalifornia.org or call (775) 463-3634

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

I submitted an Application Form for a new -

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Individual	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Individual	\$90
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Year Individual	\$125
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Family	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Family	\$110
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Year Family	\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult (18-25 years old)	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth (12-17 years old)	\$15*
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Mt. Whitney	\$500

On that form, I also requested:
_____ Associate Memberships \$ _____
My Total Remittance: \$ _____
My Check Number: _____
Date Mailed: _____

Verification of BCHC Membership

Verification of BCHC Membership is available via:

- 1) BCHC Unit President's reports
- 2) BCHC Membership Chair reports
- 3) a self addressed stamped envelope submitted with this form
- 4) a valid email address

DON'T FORGET: The BCHC Executive Committee will no longer send out membership renewal verification "green slips" via regular mail. Instead, each unit president and membership chair will get a personal email from the BCHC VP of Membership (Chip Herzig) with each units' data AND it will be put on the BCHC web page in the password protected section.



**WHAT
THE
HORSE
SEES**

HORSES ARE A PREY SPECIES

ANYTHING MOVING FAST

QUIET AND OR ABOVE THEM

IS A POTENTIAL PREDATOR

When meeting horses on the trail please stop, if possible,
on the low side, beside the trail, and *most importantly,*

TALK TO THE RIDER

TRAIL SAFETY IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF IDAHO

WWW.BCHI.ORG

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