

BCHC

**BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN
OF CALIFORNIA**
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CORRECTED VERSION

My sincerest apologies to Mike Hughes, BCHC President. I inadvertently placed an old article in Mike's President's Message space on Page 3 and did not realize it until Mike drew it to my attention. The error has been corrected and I invite you to read Mike's most recent article.
--Carol Jo Hargreaves, Editor, The Backcountry News

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The Backcountry News

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SPRING 2023



THANKS TO ALL WHO MADE RENDEZVOUS SUCCEED!



By Stacy Kuhns, Rendezvous General Chairman

As you all know, we have all been in an amazingly tough winter and it wrestled with us clear up to set up day on Wednesday before Rendezvous. Once the mud dried up, we could not have asked for a better weather weekend. It was amazing! It was nice to see old friends from the other end of the state as well as from close by. This is one of the important parts

of Rendezvous - keeping friendships together with like minded folks. Haven't seen some folks in almost a year and we didn't miss a beat and caught up. There was so much going on, I wish I could report that I saw everything. HAHA, of course the main committee did not, but we could tell everyone had a fantastic time.

I am still hearing great reviews about the young entertainer we had on Friday night. Kristyn Harris did a wonderful job for us. She is such a great gal - if you ever have a chance, you need to see her perform. The Western Art show seemed to have more entries than I have seen in quite a while. Nice entries. I even got to purchase two at the Auction! The

BBQ was amazing again. Backwoods BBQ never disappoints and no one walked away hungry that is for sure.

This year's Rendezvous theme art was created by a young adult, Sarah Poncelow. She attended Rendezvous and it was so nice to see young adults being very active at this event.

I did see the packing contests were very competitive and everyone liked the challenges that Michael Lewis had for them. I saw the iron mules being used throughout the weekend to show new folks how to do hitches.

I truly do appreciate the help that everyone did to get this event to go and run as well as it did. It took blood sweat and tears and we are so glad for those who made the drive to beautiful Southern California. We appreciate you for the support. There are a lot of folks behind the scenes and we thank you all. Michael Lewis kept me sane. HAHA. I wouldn't have wanted another person to be the co-chair on this endeavor.

NOTE: In an unofficial post-Rendezvous report, BCHC Treasurer Lynn Joiner reported the 2023 event made \$7,680 profit.

FOR MORE RENDEZVOUS RESULTS, see Pages 8-15

The Backcountry News

An internal publication of the Backcountry Horsemen of California

Editor Carol Jo Hargreaves

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Who is BCHC? The Backcountry Horsemen of California, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization incorporated in the State of California, March 13, 1990, with a 501(c)4 education foundation established in 2007. The Backcountry Horsemen of California, Inc., reserves the right to refuse any articles and/or advertisements that are not consistent with the Backcountry Horsemen of California's Objectives and Purpose statement. Other material will be printed at the Editor's discretion.

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Reader Submission: The Backcountry News welcomes reader contributions, event and calendar dates, and unit news. These will be printed on a space-available basis. Submissions should be sent in a Microsoft Word format to include author and photo credits. Longer articles are subject to edit for space at the discretion of the Editor. Photos may not be returned.

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

Edition	Deadline
Summer 2023 Edition	July 15, 2023
Fall 2023 Edition	October 15, 2023
Winter 2024 Edition	January 15, 2024
Spring 2024 Edition	April 15, 2024

Advertising Rates per Issue: Rates effective January 2012. All ads must be paid in advance.

Number of Issues:	1	2	3	4	
Full Page	\$150.00	\$142.50	\$135.00	\$127.50	} Cost per Issue
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	

Advertising: All ads must include all fonts and images used in artwork. Ads must be at a resolution of 300 pixels per inch at the actual size used in the artwork. Mail payment to the BCHC Treasurer. Checks returned from the bank will have a \$25 return check fee. No advertising will be accepted from advertisers with outstanding balances. Liability by The Backcountry News shall not exceed the space occupied by the error. Never shall The Backcountry News be liable for any general, special or consequential damages. All claims for adjustments must be made within 30 days of the first publication of said ad.

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

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

CORRECTED VERSION

INSPIRATION AND RESPECT

Inspiration can appear to be an elusive entity, especially when a deadline looms ominously nearby. Thank goodness it always seems to arrive in the nick of time, from anyone, anything or anywhere. Just keep in mind the old adage you are never too old to learn something new every day.

**BCHC President
Mike Hughes**

The inspiration for this current President's Message unfolded as I reflected upon a book I had recently read entitled, NOT MY FIRST RODEO, by Kristi Noem. The key concepts encapsulated in this book were respect, true grit, family, helping others, patriotism and faith. These are many of the same ideals demonstrated consistently by Backcountry Horsemen of California, from local units to the national level.

I am happy to report these same lofty concepts were in abundance at the recent March 24-26 Rendezvous held in Temecula. The setting was well chosen, the weather was cooperative, and the people were friendly and fun. The number of dedicated people necessary to pull off this kind of extravaganza is a long and impressive list to which all deserve well earned praise. However, every wagon train, no matter how immense, needs a wagon master. The co-producers of this fine gathering were Stacy Kuhns and Mike Lewis, members of the Redshank Riders Unit. A tip of the hat definitely goes to these hard working, dedicated, true grit horse folks.

No one accomplishes an event of this magnitude alone. Stacy and Mike had a great supporting cast, such as Walt and Susie Kirkwood from the San Diego Unit. Also, there were many other helping hands such as Pebbles Lewis, Jack Parham, the BCHC Executive Committee, etc. Many of these good folks doing good things for the public and the BCHC membership will not be individually named here, however, that does not make their contributions any less powerful. I again tip my hat in respect and thankfulness to each and every one of you.

I found the clinicians, trail trials and presenters to be informative and excellent, the vendors to be professional and fair in their dealings and the wine and beer tasting to be superb. The overall time and energy expended in youth classes, mule packing, art show and cowboy church was well worth the investment. Every one of these excellent events definitely established many new relationships and strengthened existing friendships. A truly polished performer was Kristyn Harris, as her vocals and yodeling were the highlight of the Saturday night entertainment. Overall, this was a most pleasurable way to spend a few days in the south land of California.

The facilities were well chosen, although we had to dodge lakes the first day, ponds on the second, puddles on the third and finally, we got to the dust on the fourth day. Not complaining, mind you, as the previous drought years

made this winter rain a blessing, although it did add to the Rendezvous Committee's challenges.

During the gathering I was given multiple opportunities to be inspired, however at the top of my list was the honor and privilege of presenting the Ben York Award to a longtime friend of BCHC and well deserving recipient, Lynn Joiner. Having been a past president, long time state treasurer, high country packer, trail improvement worker, state chaplain and all around highly respected person, Lynn was the perfect recipient of this prestigious recognition.

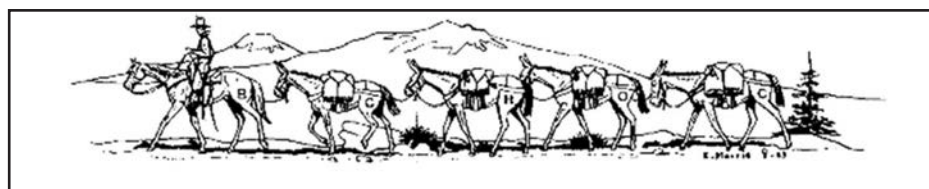
In the evenings we gathered for a breaking of bread and boisterous fellowship. The caterer presented some of the best BBQ I have ever had the pleasure to feast upon. Top Hand awards and special recognition were given out to honor those participants who, from the ground up, make this a viable, vibrant and meaningful organization. My deepest respect to those who give and give and give so much.

Currently there are plans afoot to hold the next Rendezvous mid-state in 2024. This annual event will require a lot of volunteering from many members and units to make it a success. Please share your talents, gifts and inspirations with those spearheading this effort. I know they will deeply appreciate and need your participation and help.

Until then, remember to first look for inspiration everywhere, secondly remember that respect is earned and, finally, the truth will always prevail. Don't take my word for it, just ask Kristi Noem.

Mike Hughes

President, Backcountry Horsemen of California



**Mark your calendar:
OCTOBER STATE BOARD
MEETING**

**EXEC. COMMITTEE - Friday, October 6
STATE BOARD - Saturday, October 7**

**VFW Hall
South Sacramento, CA**

BCHC NEWS



**BCHC Editor
Carol Jo Hargreaves**

THIS IS YOUR PAPER

It is always a fun challenge to create the layout for BCHC's quarterly newspaper. This time, thanks to the plethora of Rendezvous news, I had plenty of material to work with. Usually, I receive Unit News and photographs, too, but this time I only received one item (thanks, Lucy Baden-hoop!). Was that because I did not send out an advance reminder notice to every unit's President and Editor?

Remember, this is YOUR newspaper. This is the place where you get to brag, share information and ideas, and generally "toot your own horns." Take advantage of it! Even though BCHC members are like minded, we all have different and valuable ideas and we can all learn from each other.

Everyone is busy living their lives but BCHC needs YOU to contribute to this paper to make it useful and interesting. Not all of us are savvy computer users. Not all of us want to receive an electronic version of the paper. Yes, that would save money, but I believe the majority of us would not read a digital paper. We would have good intentions but we would get busy and forget and the email would become "out of sight, out of mind," contributing to disconnection from our organization.

The next newsletter deadline is Saturday, July 15, 2023. If you ever need to know the deadline, you can always look at the little chart on Page 2 of the paper. If you have tossed your paper, go to bhcocalifornia.org and click on Member Site then on the Backcountry News tab. Or contact me. I am happy to help you!

Looking forward to hearing from you in July!
-- Carol Jo ("CJ")



WOULD YOU LIKE EXTRA COPIES OF THE NEWSLETTER TO PROMOTE BCHC AT AN UPCOMING EVENT?

Just let me know. I will order the copies and make arrangements to ship or deliver them to you.

~ Carol Jo, Editor

BCHCNewsletter@gmail.com or (209) 988-5831



**BCHC Secretary
Susie Patton**

FROM THE BCHC SECRETARY

Hello, BCHC members.

I hope that you are all finally getting some spring sunshine. We are dealing with high snowmelt in our area of the Eastern Sierra.

If you missed the Rendezvous in Temecula, you missed a good time. It was rainy at first but turned into beautiful southern California weather. Many thanks to Stacy Kuhns and Mike Lewis for all their hard work in putting Rendezvous together. We all owe them thanks for putting on an event that added to our treasury and will allow us to offer educational grants. We were also able to honor Lynn Joiner with the Ben York Award for her many years of service to Backcountry Horsemen of California

We had many local horsemen who attended Rendezvous and expressed that they had a great time and enjoyed the event. The BLM Wild Horse and Burro Adoption was a big attraction as was the obstacle challenge. It was great to see some young packers out there in the packing competition and to meet the young artist, Sarah Poncelow, who did the artwork for Rendezvous promotion.

The Executive Committee is preparing for its summer campout meeting to be held in June, where we will review the 2023 Rendezvous and look at plans for a 2024 Rendezvous. We will also be looking at a couple of bylaw changes that may be presented in October. The Executive Committee will be discussing nominations for officers to serve in 2024. The offices up for election in an even year are: President, 2nd VP (Service Hours), VP of Education, VP of Youth Education, Treasurer and one National Director (Larry Shuman's position). If you or someone you know would be willing to take on one of these offices, please contact one of the following Past Presidents who serve together as the Nominating Committee (see list at right and Michael King's article on Page 6).

I am also working on plans for the October 6-7 State Board meeting. We have a VFW Hall in South Sacramento, near Elk Grove, that we are working with to host the State meeting, dinner Friday night for the Executive Committee and lunch on Saturday for the Board of Directors. More information will be available as soon as we can firm up the details. It is a little further north so northern delegates will not have to drive quite so far. We are always on the look-out for a good venue, so if you know of one, please contact me.

As always, we will be electing officers in October and hope to be looking at a bylaw change. If your unit has a topic they would like discuss at the October State Board meeting, please send to me in writing no later than the end of August. Please email me at bludog46@gmail.com if you have any questions.

BCHC NEWS

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**BCHC VP of Membership
Chip Herzig**



IS SLIPPING

BCHC membership is slipping, as seen in the data below. Not sure of the cause other than we cleaned up the membership database, deleting the expired members.

More than half of BCHC units (12 of 22 or 55%) lost members since December. Two units neither lost nor gained and eight units gained between one and 13 members.

Unit	Members Apr 2023	Members Dec 2022	Difference
Antelope Valley	44	41	3
Eastern Sierra	46	49	-3
High Country	36	39	-3
High Sierra	78	79	-1
Kern River Valley	29	32	-3
Kern Sierra	57	60	-3
Lake-Mendo	44	49	-5
Los Padres	161	177	-16
Mid Valley	322	350	-28
Mother Lode	217	207	10
North Bay	46	53	-7
Pacific Crest	12	12	0
Redshank Riders	102	89	13
Redwood	165	171	-6
San Diego	127	122	5
San Joaquin Sierra	142	146	-4
Santa Ana River	61	56	5
Sequoia	72	74	-2
Shasta Trinity	122	119	3
Sierra Freepackers	55	52	3
Sutter Buttes	28	27	1
Top of the State	101	101	0
TOTAL	2067	2105	-38

2023 - IMPORTANT DATES

MAY 26-28 (Memorial Day Weekend) – Bishop Mule Days Celebration. Please volunteer to help at the BCHC booth.

JUNE - Summer Retreat Meeting for BCHC Executive Committee

JULY 15 - Deadline for Summer newsletter submissions to Editor

OCTOBER 7 - State Board of Directors Meeting (VFW Hall, South Sacramento)

OCTOBER 15 - Deadline for Fall newsletter submissions to Editor



DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR SUMMER 2023 EDITION

of the Backcountry News is: **JULY 15, 2023**

Send submissions to:

BCHC Editor at BCHCNewsletter@gmail.com

Anyway, all need to take a look at what is going on in your unit and get the lost souls back!

BCHC NEWS

TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT RUNNING FOR OFFICE!

By Michael King, BCHC Nominating Committee

Salutations and warm greetings to all of you folks out there. I hope this article finds everyone well. It's hard to believe that we are moving into the second quarter of 2023 already. Why didn't time move this fast when I was watching the clock in school?

I promised last fall that we would start earlier in the year to generate interest and secure candidates to run for positions coming up for election in BCHC. Those positions will be filled by director voting at BCHC's October State Board Meeting.

The six positions opening this year are: President, 2nd Vice President (Service Hours), Treasurer, BCHA National Director, Vice President of Education and Vice President of Youth Education. Each of the positions will be for a two-year term.

The duties for each of these positions were recently reviewed and updated to give the interested position seeker a true look at the job requirements. Those position descriptions may be found in the BCHC 501(c4) Bylaws, and our BCHC Secretary, Susie Patton, will be pleased to supply you with a copy of those duties upon request. Susie can be contacted at: bludog46@gmail.com

Please look around your unit and encourage those qualified for a BCHC position to consider putting their hats in the ring. That just might be including yourself! New blood with new ideas are needed to keep this organization vibrant and fluid with the changing times. Lifetime positions are not healthy for any entity, and I ask you to consider stepping up to serve BCHC. We need your ideas.

By bringing this topic up now, it will give potential candidates a chance to explore and consider the job duties.

For those not planning to run, be on the lookout for good candidates and encourage them to step up. Let me know who you are considering and a BCHC Nominating Committee member will make contact and help them with the decision process. You may reach me by calling (209) 606-8323 or emailing mickngig@sbcglobal.net Please know that no one elected will be left to flounder as they learn the new job. Many experienced people will absolutely be there to help and provide support.

One final thing to remember, and this I know from experience. We can't just say, "If you are interested, contact us." Generally, that approach doesn't work. Someone needs to personally ask a candidate to run, secure their commitment and close the deal. This I cannot stress enough. Nominating Committee members are willing to do this, but we need your help in identifying prospective candidates. (See the list of Nominating Committee members with their contact information on page 5.)

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider this message. Remember, new challenges are constantly coming to the front and we need new thinking to deal with them.



By Carol Jo Hargreaves

Amazon launched its AmazonSmile program in 2013 to make it easier for customers to support their favorite charities. Through the program, Amazon would donate 0.5 percent of the cost of all eligible products to a buyer's pre-selected charity.

After almost a decade, however, in February 2023, Amazon shut down the AmazonSmile program as a cost-cutting measure and because it did not create the impact they originally hoped.

Many of you used AmazonSmile to support BCHC. **Over the past several years, BCHC received \$186.48 from Amazon.** (Not an awful lot but no work required.) Thank you!



THE BCHC EDUCATION FUND IS A 501(c)3 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

A donation in the amount of your choice is tax deductible. You can now donate easily and quickly, using a major credit card or PayPal. Simply go to the BCHC website (bchcalifornia.org), scroll down to the bottom of any page, press the DONATE button and help us in our many efforts. THANK YOU!



BCHC NEWS

NEW STUDENT PACKER COLLEGE FUND

By Lucy Badenhoop

Many of you already know that the UC Davis Pack Team is sponsored by the Mother Lode Unit (MLU) and that MLU is very appreciative of the team's stellar efforts at the Mule Days Interscholastic Pack Team Competition each Memorial Day weekend in Bishop, CA:

World Champions in 2016, 2017 and 2022

Reserve World Champions in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2019 and 2021

(Note: Mule Days was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID restrictions.)

To further promote the learning of packing skills among students, MLU and the UC Davis Department of Animal Science have cooperated to establish a fund for members of the UCD pack team(s). This fund is based on financial need and may be awarded each spring term upon formation of that year's pack team(s) for UC Davis.

We have avoided using the term "scholarship" because that is limited to undergraduate students and we want to include graduate students, so UCD advises the use of the term "student award." Donors to the student award fund can participate at three levels, all of which are tax deductible. See the flyer for donation details or contact Oliver Ramsey at owramsey@ucdavis.edu or (530) 752-2462.

1. Endowed gifts starting at \$50,000 and are donated directly to UC Davis.
2. Current-use gifts starting at \$5,000 per student award and are donated directly to UC Davis.
3. Gifts of any amount may be made to the BCHC Education Fund via the Mother Lode Unit. They will be provided for smaller student awards or combined for a larger award by UC Davis.

In addition to this new student award fund, MLU provides the UCD team with a packing trainer, uniforms, equipment for practicing, and travel expenses to Bishop Mule Days each Memorial Day weekend.

UCD and MLU have the capacity to train and support two four-person teams at Bishop Mule Days (one with blue shirts and one with gold shirts – the UCD school colors). These eight students plus two fully trained alternates will be eligible for financial assistance from the fund. Students interested in joining the pack team should contact Kelli Davis, UCD Barn Manager, kadavis@ucdavis.edu.



Expect Greater

From UC Davis. For the World.



Leading the Way in Mule Pack Teams

UC Davis Department of Animal Science

From reducing harmful animal emissions to safely enhancing productivity, the UC Davis Department of Animal Science is ranked 1st in the world, with over 40 faculty researching ways to produce healthy food from healthy animals, even in changing climates.

UC Davis Animal Science is also home to the World Champion Interscholastic Pack Team which began competing at the Bishop Mule Days competition in 2013.

Gifts and support from the Back Country Horsemen's Association – Mother Lode Unit (BCHC-MLU) has been vital to the Pack Team's success. We are grateful for that long-standing support of our students.

Preparing the Next Generation of Mule Packers

Give today to a new Student Award to encourage Mule Pack Team students. Your investment in the nation's best Mule Pack Team will ensure UC Davis's ability to provide experiences for our students in this important field of training mule packers, now and for generations to come.

Make checks of less than \$5000 payable to: BCHC Education Fund; Note "UCD Pack Team Student Award."

Mail to:

BCHC-MLU

PO Box 702

North Highlands, CA 95660

Make checks of \$5000 or greater payable to: UC Davis Foundation; Note "Mule Pack Team Student Award."

Mail to:

Advancement Services

UC Davis

202 Cousteau Place, Ste. 185

Davis, CA 95618



Marks of Distinction

- World Champion Interscholastic Pack Team (Bishop Mule Days - World Champions (2016, 2017, 2022) and Reserve World Champions (2013, 2014, 2015, 2019, 2021))

UCDAVIS
DEPARTMENT of ANIMAL SCIENCE

For more information, please contact Oliver Ramsey at owramsey@ucdavis.edu or (530) 752-2461.

PUBLIC LANDS



**BCHC VP of Public Lands
Troy Patton**

PUBLIC LANDS

By Troy Patton

LEGISLATION - The biggest problem we dealt with this year was California State AB 233. This was a proposed law that would have required all horses and mules ridden or used anywhere in the state be fitted with manure bags (often called bun bags). The rider would then be responsible for removing the manure and taking it to approved disposal sites.

The law would have given full authority to the governing agency to decide whether to enforce it. It included land owned by city, county, state and included any public land in the backcountry governed by the State. This is STATE land only and does not include National Forests, National Parks or Bureau of Land Management. This bill was pushed through quickly and went to Committee as soon we found out about it. I spoke about it at the BCHC Board of Directors meeting in February and was able to quickly get an email blast out to all members and others to immediately write to their State Assemblyperson and ask them to vote NO.

Thanks to the quick action of our members and other horse owners, we were able to have the “public lands” part of the bill removed! It will be heard in the Assembly on May 3, and hopefully does not pass, but if it does it will only apply to streets and sidewalks, if adopted by an agency, city or park. This is why it is so important to have correct email addresses of BCHC members. Right now, we only have emails for about half of our members. Email blasts are the only way we have to get information to all our members quickly, without having to wait until a meeting is held. We do not use or share our email addresses; they are only used to notify you about urgent matters. I would urge you to update your email address, or, if we do not have one for you, give it to our VP of Membership, Chip Herzig, so that you will be notified of important information.

AWARDS - Ann Lange Award

This award was created to honor Ann Lange who worked tirelessly for BCHC in the area of Public Lands. Ann never met a stranger and was willing to go anywhere and talk to anyone about public lands. We received nominations for four great candidates this year and the judges thought long and hard to decide on a winner. Our winner was Marilyn Reese from High Sierra Unit. Marilyn was nominated by her unit and Bob Herrick wrote the letter. His detailed letter was a big part of why Marilyn was chosen.

Following is Bob’s letter:

Marilyn Reese – Nominee for the 2023 Ann Lange Award

Marilyn has been involved with the Backcountry Horsemen for the past 30+ years. Initially, she began working on stock user education programs in conjunction with her position as the Assistant Recreation Officer on the Sequoia National Forest. In addition to her Forest Service responsibilities working with the Backcountry Horsemen, Marilyn was actively involved with the Board of Directors for the High Sierra Unit. She was very committed to the education programs for the BCHC, including being a member of the initial Education Committee which developed the “Gentle Use Program,” and working on numerous Rendezvous committees to schedule the education clinics. She also is an integral member of the Public Lands Committee.

Marilyn received her bachelor’s degree from UC Davis, and worked for the Forest Service for 20 years in several locations throughout California. Forests she worked on included the Inyo, the Mendocino, the Sierra, and the Sequoia. Her career was focused on working in Recreation – including wilderness, trails, campgrounds, and special uses administration (working with resorts, pack stations, ski areas, and youth camps).

In 1997, she changed career hats and started a consulting business working with recreation resorts and businesses that operate on national forests and national parks. Marilyn’s business serves as a liaison between the small business owners and the agencies that govern their operations. Over the years, Marilyn has been involved with numerous land management and wilderness plans throughout California – helping to provide input as to the effects the plans would have on the use of saddle and pack stock use for riding, packing and camping on those public lands. She continues to be involved with the Public Lands Committee of the High Sierra Unit.

While serving on the Public Lands Committee she has been in a leadership role helping to guide us through the evaluations of the Sequoia/Kings Canyon Wilderness Stewardship Plan Implementation, as well as providing comments on the draft forest plans for both the Sequoia-Kings Canyon (SEKI) and Sierra National Forests. Thanks to her leadership we have been able to develop a rapport with the Superintendent of SEKI, and she regularly attends our status update meetings with Superintendent Jordan and his staff. She assists us with our annual review of the grazing and stock use restrictions for SEKI, providing comments on how we can reopen closed meadows and make the backcountry more accessible to private stock users.

M.H. Reese & Associates is the name of her business, and she operates from her home base in Woodlake.

Marilyn is still committed to working with organizations for private and commercial stock users to keep trails open on our national forests and parks. I proudly support her nomination as a recipient of the Ann Lange Award. No one is more deserving. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob Herrick

High Sierra Unit Public Lands Committee Chairman

(This is a great example of how to write a nomination letter.)

Marilyn was very honored and surprised to receive this award as she and Ann Lange were close friends and worked on many projects together.

EDUCATION

Ben York Trailblazer Award

This award is given periodically for long-term work done over and above the call of duty. Dr. York, a member of San Diego Unit, was involved in the formative years of BCHC and the Pacific Crest Trail Association. He was able to bring these two groups together for the good of both. He always encouraged the groups to work toward their common goals and served as a liaison between the two groups. When there was a push to remove horses from the PCT, Dr. York fought to keep horses on the trail and demonstrated how to widen and slope the trails so water wouldn't wash them out in accordance with the Forest Service Trail Manual. He rode the PCT twice, once with his wife and once on his own. He even wrote a book about his trip.

This year Lynn Joiner from the Kern Sierra Unit was awarded the prestigious Ben York Trailblazer Award. Lynn helped in the formation of BCHC and even served as President for a term. She serves as our unofficial historian, our Chaplain, has been an asset at every Rendezvous and has been BCHC Treasurer for many years. It was a monumental task to keep this award a secret from Lynn, and she was extremely surprised when it was presented to her.



**BCHC Saw Program
Coordinator
Mike Lewis**

BCHC SAW PROGRAM

By Michael Lewis - BCHC Saw Program Coordinator

The following is a letter I have sent to BCHC saw instructors and trainees:

To all instructors and trainees,
It's finally happened, on March 29th of this year the amended Forest Service Saw Policy was published. What does this mean? A number of things including a bucking only evaluator certification which means, we can now certify and recertify our own C instructors without requiring our evaluators to be fellers. Also, as a volunteer organization, we will no longer be using our own training but that of the Forest Service. It is arranged in modules 1 through 7. They will be used in a combination specific to whatever training is being done. We also have a new A and B evaluation sheet. Policy will no longer require an 8" high boot for non-fire but, just ones that are non-cut, lug sole lace ups that provide ankle support. There is also a provision for a B instructor that upon approval from the saw program coordinator that will be able to instruct and certify A sawyers. We also have been required to resubmit our saw program which has been submitted, signed by our R5 saw program manager and is awaiting the signature of the National Saw Program Manager. We will no longer be issuing or signing our own saw cards but instead the student evaluation information will be entered into a database, the card will be digitally signed by a line officer or someone designated for that task. And, the FS is requiring that it be done within 14 days from when the information is submitted. A pdf file of the card will then be emailed to the student. I am currently working on a new instructors file that will include everything needed to do a class. It will include the amended policy, training modules, student guidebook, instructors' guidebook, curriculum, a train the trainer section, and the new evaluation sheets. While we won't be required to make the transition to the new training until April of 2024, my goal is to be using it by sometime this summer or earlier if possible.

Michael Lewis

BCHC Saw Program Coordinator 951 760-9255



Marilyn Reese (second from left) receives prestigious Ann Lange Public Lands Award from (L to R) Troy Patton, Cindy McMurry and Terry Jorgensen



Lynn Joiner wins Ben York Trailblazer Award presented by BCHC President Mike Hughes and Rendezvous General Chairman Stacy Kuhns



THANK YOU, RENDEZVOUS SPONSORS!

BCHC sincerely thanks the following 2023 Rendezvous sponsors for their generous support.

Please visit and support these businesses when you have the opportunity.

2500 Sponsor



Star Milling Co.®



Integrity
Horse Feeds

500 Sponsors



1000 Sponsor



THANK YOU, RENDEZVOUS SPONSORS!

RENDEZVOUS 2023

DUTCH OVEN CHALLENGE RESULTS

Article by Theresia Hamilton-Jorgensen; photos by Alan Sanderson

The 2023 BCHC Rendezvous has come and gone and a good time was had by all who attended. In the Dutch Oven Demo area, participants were treated to the fine art of cooking with cast iron Dutch ovens by Bill and Marcia Moser of the Santa Ana River Unit. Bill and Marcia provided a variety of items from breakfasts to desserts and everything in between. Samples were distributed to Rendezvous attendees and vendors. There were never any leftovers for sure.

Leave No Trace principles related to food preparation and waste management were provided by Terry Jorgensen of the San Diego Unit. A display of different types of cast iron Dutch ovens, skillets, and griddles was available for a hands-on feel in addition to examples of various food items that are both LNT friendly and convenient for camp cooking.

Saturday was the Dutch Oven Challenge where two gentlemen, Leonard Werner and Douglas Damewood, competed. Rendezvous provided the main ingredient of chicken thighs, and the contestants were challenged to prepare whatever dish they wanted with that ingredient. Contestants did their cooking in the Dutch Oven Demo area and spectators came by during the three-hour period to check on each contestant's cooking. At the end of the three hours samples were offered to spectators who then voted for the first place. There were 67 votes and Douglas Damewood of Redshank Unit placed first by a narrow margin with Leonard Werner of San Diego Unit placing second. Awards were presented and everyone enjoyed the food.

So, practice your cooking skills and plan to compete in the Dutch Oven Challenge at the next Rendezvous.



In these photos Bill and Marcia Moser (Santa Ana River Unit) demonstrate Dutch oven cooking. Terry Jorgensen (San Diego Unit), in vest, enjoys a taste.

RENDEZVOUS 2023 RESULTS

WESTERN ART SHOW WINNERS



" Keeping Trails open for over 35 years!"

- PAINTING: Susan Eyer-Anderson
- FIBER ART: Lynn Crawford
- LEATHER WORK: Ashley Ray
- PHOTOGRAPHY: Patti Karcher
- CHARCOAL DRAWING: Sarah Poncelow
- CERAMICS: Pat Wolff
- MANTY ART: Jack/Gretchen Peckham

Individual Education Award Recipient -

This award is presented to...

- Someone who has demonstrated unique, creative, and innovative education programs.
- Someone who has used different methods or made a variety of presentations.
- Someone who has reached a variety of age groups.

Anna Baglione, Eastern Sierra Unit



2022 TOP HAND AWARDS

Every year each Unit President selects an individual that, in the President's estimation, provided the greatest service to the President and to his/her Unit.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Antelope Valley | Jerry Stone |
| Eastern Sierra | Mariah Keuler |
| High Country | Alan Cain |
| High Sierra | Marilyn Reese |
| Kern River Valley | Edward Pounds |
| Kern Sierra | Steve Cozzetto |
| Los Padres | Kris Pimentel |
| Mid Valley | Vicki Morales |
| Mother Lode | Jennifer van der Linden |
| Pacific Crest | Jennifer Sponsler |
| Redshank Riders | Stacy Kuhns |
| Redwood | Jacque Murphy |
| San Diego | Barbara Hughes |
| San Joaquin Sierra | Jim Laber |
| Santa Ana River | Alan Sanderson |
| Sequoia | Wilbur Brown |
| Shasta Trinity | Sam Burrows |
| Sierra Freepackers | David Howse |
| Sutter Buttes | Sue Staib |
| Top of the State | Don Menne |

Lake-Mendo and North Bay units did not submit names

Backcountry Horsemen of California Fundraiser

Raffle ticket drawing March 25, 2023



Henry Rifle - lever action .22 Silver Eagle 2nd Edition

WINNER: Kelly York, Ft Jones



\$500.00 Bass Pro Gift Card

WINNER: Norma Varrati, Modesto

MAX AND IRENE COCHRAN JOURNALISM AWARD

The unit and its newsletter editor are selected for the quality of their newsletter based on the following criteria: Content, Appearance and Consistency.

- 1st - Michele Machado, Top of the State Unit**
- 2nd - Kathy Zumbrunn, Vicki Morales, Sue Flagg and Kaitlyn Rumsey, Mid Valley Unit**
- 3rd - Jim Laber, San Joaquin Sierra Unit**

PACKING CONTEST WINNERS



BOX HITCH

- Youth: 1st - Elle Robertson**
- 2nd - Sam McEntee**
- Adult: 1st - Sam McEntee**
- 2nd - Sarah Poncelow**

DIAMOND HITCH

- Youth: 1st - Sam McEntee**
- Adult: 1st - Mariah Keuler**
- 2nd - Bob Herrick**

ODD/BALANCED LOAD

- 1st - Dan Baumgardner & Bob Herrick**
- 2nd - Jack Peckham & Greg Bruce**

RENDEZVOUS 2023

RENDEZVOUS PACKING COMPETITION

By Michael Lewis

First, I would like to thank everyone who helped, especially Lloyd Erlandson, Troy Patton and Carl Perry. Now, let me set the stage for this year's packing competition.

About a year and a half ago at Rendezvous in Tulare, a young man came down from Fresno to spend the Rendezvous with some friends of his. On Friday he was taught the box hitch and he then decided to enter Saturday's Youth Packing Competition. He practiced up until Saturday's competition and ended up winning the Youth Box Hitch buckle. Quite an accomplishment for having just learned the hitch a day before.

Fast forward to this year's Rendezvous packing competition where again we had a young lady show up for our Packing 101 presentation and learn the box hitch. We also talked her into entering Youth Packing the following day. Who would her competition be? None other than Tulare's youth winner. Once again, a first-time competitor prevailed and won the Youth Box Hitch contest. The young lady tied a very good box hitch. The young man from Fresno who had just gotten beaten by a first timer in the box hitch went on to win the Youth Diamond Hitch contest.

Alas, the story does not end here. The young man who won the Tulare Youth Box Hitch and won the Temecula Youth Diamond Hitch now wanted to compete in the Adult Box Hitch. After getting a vote from the other competitors, he was allowed to compete. Guess what? He beat out nine other adults and took first place.

One more thing, Sarah Poncelow, this year's Rendezvous theme artist, came in second and she had just learned the hitch herself the day before.

On to the rest of the competition. Adult Diamond Hitch was won by Mariah Kueler with Bob Herrick coming in a close second. We put a new twist on the Odd Load Contest and made it an Odd Load / Balanced Load contest. One load to be packed with a variety of items and another with items to be balanced side to side as closely as possible with off-balanced loads incurring a time penalty. Two packers and two mules. The winning team was Dan Baumgardner and Bob Herrick with Jack Peckham and Greg Bruce coming in just a few seconds behind for second place. The award for the load most likely to make it to camp? Jeff and Patty Rankin. The two sides of their load were only a few ounces different.

Congratulations to all who helped and competed. You all made the packing events a big success. I look forward to next time.



BUCKLE WINNERS

Odd Load / Balanced Load (above) - Dan Baumgardner and Bob Herrick

Youth Box Hitch (right) - Elle Robertson with Mike Lewis

RENDEZVOUS 2023

RENDEZVOUS ARENA TRAIL CHALLENGE

By Audrey Turpin

Rendezvous 2023 Arena Trail Challenge was a success. With over 60 runs in two days, riders of all skill levels enjoyed a challenging and scenic course. We had several divisions. Saturday was our Packer class, In Hand class, Junior Class. The Novice division filled up so fast we added runs to Novice on Saturday and finished the Novice up Sunday morning. Then rolled into the Open Division, finishing up with the timed and exciting class off Beat the Clock!

California Safety Agency generously sponsored our ribbons, silver buckles for first place along with silver pendants for second place. Along with our product sponsors Integrity Feed, Winchester Western Saddlery, Bardsley Grooming Products and Spurs Big Fix, we were able to award all the way to 6th place along with a rider swag bag to every competitor, judge and show volunteer.

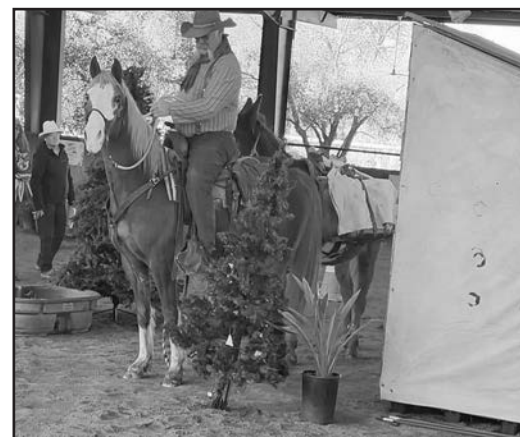
Winners were:

Place	PACKER	IN HAND	JUNIOR	NOVICE	OPEN	Beat the Clock
1 st	Cindi Paine	Cindi Paine	Matt S.	Alyssa Turpin	Cindi Paine	Jean Chadsey
2 nd	Jean Chadsey	Jean Chadsey	Kayla L.	Sean Dawson	Jean Chadsey	Jennifer Bryd
3 rd	Carri Gunn	Susie Figley	Kendall D.	Casey Wagner	Kim Parham	Sherry Panttaja
4 th	Greg Bruce	Kim Parham	Sydney S.	Ashley Gutierrez	Sherry Panttaja	Greg Bruce
5 th		Jenni Dawson	Haven W.	Tina Frey	Tina Louise Icorn	Gail Bolander
6 th		Vicki Gonzalez	Aiden B.	Elizabeth Reese	Jana Tindell	Sienna Hasenyager

I want to thank all the judges, scribes, entry admins and ring stewards who volunteered their time to make the Rendezvous 2023 Trail Challenge a success! Thanks to my husband, Tim Turpin, and Jack Peckham for their skills in putting together some wonderful obstacles. Last but certainly not least, my co-chair, Gretchen Peckham, with her devious mind in setting up and designing obstacles and courses.



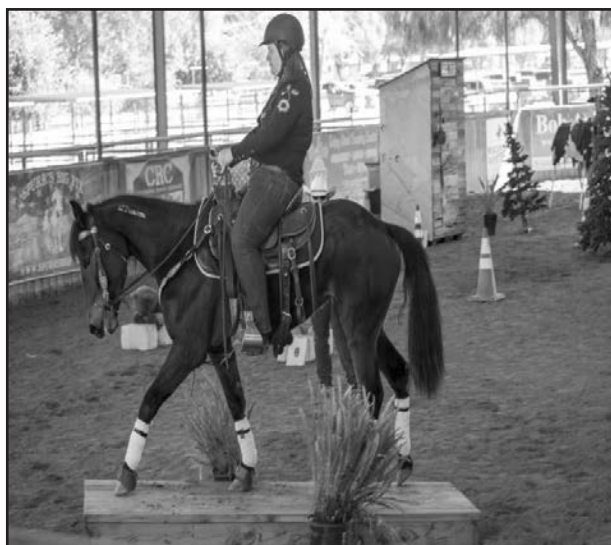
Bridge on the challenging and scenic Trail Challenge course



4th Place Beat the Clock, Greg Bruce



A miniature horse and handler participate in In Hand competition. (Competitor's name unknown.)



Danni Cardiff takes her horse through the Trail Challenge



1st Place Novice, Alyssa Turpin

BCHA: Dedicated to keeping America's trails open for all



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2023 BCHA NATIONAL BOARD MEETING

- Expansion committee report - Freddie Dunn. Motion to approve Texas to join BCHA, all approved
- Texas added as new state to BCHA.

- The new Texas directors brought from Senator Cruz an American flag that was flown over the capital of Texas to present to BCHA. Governor Abbott of Texas also gave the Texas Directors a letter to read to the National Board.
- On this 50th anniversary of the BCHA, there are now 32 states, 198 chapters, and 12,160 members.
- Committees reported out: Media, Membership, Education, Public Lands, Youth. In 2022, total value of BCHA Volunteer Hours was \$12,131.25.
- There were five resolutions presented. Two resolutions passed, three failed.
- Youth ad hoc committee requested its status to be changed from ad hoc to a standing committee. This was approved

- Six groups were developed to go over and update goals of the BCHA strategic business plan.
- Tuesday morning till lunch went over the history and development of BCHA. It started with four guys around a campfire.
- Tuesday after lunch the National Museum of Forest Service History gave a presentation on the new facility in Missoula, Montana.
- "Light on the Land" is a BCHA education program to compliment LNT covering stock use. It is not a take over.
- BCHA logo and BCHA anniversary logo are available to use on items. Go to the BCHA website for the policy and be sure to review the logo policy before using.
- Results of election of new officers:
 - Chair - Mark Himmel, MT
 - Vice Chair - Craig Ferdig, AZ
 - Treasurer - Kathy Young, WA
 - Director - Jim Allen, SD
 - 2nd Director - Greg Schatz, MT
- BCHA will now go down to one hard copy newsletter and one digital newsletter a year. Digital news briefs will be continued. The editor cited problems getting article submission for the newspaper. Chapters/units need to be sure to submit articles for the newsletters.
- Due to cost of maintaining a paid staff for public lands and the office of BCHA, BCHA will start the process to raise dues by \$5. This will take about two to three years if approved by the States. It takes 75% of state votes to ratify the membership increase. The last dues increase was in 2012.
- The BCHA National Board Meeting will be held in Cheyenne, Wyoming, next year.

REMINDER:

BCHA only mails ONE print edition of its newspaper each year. The Spring 2023 edition is posted online and ready for you to download and read. Go to bcha.org, click on "For Members" then "Newsletter."

50 YEARS OF BCHA PUBLIC LANDS HISTORY

50-YEAR HISTORY OF BCHA PUBLIC LANDS*

Then (1973) to now (2023)

It all started with four men around a campfire

- 1973** Opposed horse permit system in the Bob Marshall Wilderness (MT)
Began volunteer work program – Flathead, MT
- 1979** Opposed explosive seismic testing in Bob Marshall, Great Bear, and Scapegoat Wildernesses (MT)
- 1981** Participated in the first national conference on public land use.
- 1982** Opposed all exploration in wilderness
- 1983** Opposed sale of Forest Service lands
Countered trail closures due to false data claiming invasive species being spread by horses
Opposed user fees to hunt in wilderness
- 1984** Endorsed Montana wilderness proposal
- 1986** Participated in President Reagan’s Commission on the American Outdoors meetings - advocated trail maintenance and public land access
- 1987** BCH members appointed to National Park Service’s Stock Use Committee
Prevented closure of Montana wilderness areas to stock use prompted by belief that horses were degrading water quality
- 1988** Supported new wilderness in Idaho
First face-to-face meetings in Washington, D.C., with agency officials
- 1990** Supported Forest Service recommendation to remove outfitter caches in Frank Church Wilderness (ID)
Appealed Forest Service management plan restricting trail maintenance in Cascades of OR and WA
- 1991** Supported Montana wilderness bill
Recreational Trails Program (RTP) passes in Congress with BCHA support
- 1992** Opposed trail closures due to wolf and bear regulations
- 1993** Opposed stock restrictions in Canyonlands National Park (UT)
- 1996** Opposed Transfer of US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands to state ownership
Active against closure of stock trails in Sawtooth Wilderness (ID)
- 1997** Supported USFS “categorical exclusion” provision for maintaining wilderness trails due to “extra ordinary natural circumstances”
- 1998** Supported national strategy for invasive species management - weed-free feed on public lands
- 1999** Memorandum of Understanding with BLM, Forest Service, and National Park Service
BCHA Wilderness Committee created – first meeting Reno
- 2000** BCHA hires Dennis Dailey as a consultant, who championed the need for BCHA to set a proactive agenda (vs. reactive) and for BCH chapters to build rapport with local agency staff
Analysis and support of President Clinton’s Roadless Rule Engagement in wide range of regional and national conferences/symposia
Region 1 Foresters pack trip, Pacific NW Trail trip, USFS Recreation meeting
- 2001** BCHA Chairman Alan Hill testifies before US House of Representatives Committee on Natural Resources on impediments to recreational access to public lands
Affiliation with the American Horse Council; formation of AHC Recreation Committee
BCHA Legal Defense Fund established
- 2002** Partnership agreement with National Trails Training Partnership
- 2003** BCHA representative added to Leave No Trace Corporate Board
BCHA and BCH TN oppose forest plan on Cherokee NF (TN) that would limit stock to designated trails only and restricted camping
- 2005** Lawsuit challenging new Forest Service Classification System (TCS) filed
Supported federal Recreational Trails Program funding
- 2006** Federal Judge decides Forest Service TCS lawsuit. Ruled the agency failed to solicit public comment before implementing its new trail classification system, violated the National Forest Management Act and instructed the agency to initiate a public process.
- 2008** Memorandum of Understanding between the Missouri DNR and BCH Missouri
- 2009** Missouri “Right to Ride” legislation passed
Extensive effort by Michigan BCH to oppose DNR trail closures
BCH E. TN supported preservation of Civil War “Overmountain Victory Trail” in VA, TN, NC, SC
- 2010** Michigan “Right to Ride” legislation passed
- 2011** BCHA and The Wilderness Society (TWS) submit request that Congress request an audit of the Forest Service trail maintenance backlog

50 YEARS OF BCHA PUBLIC LANDS HISTORY

From BCHA PUBLIC LANDS, page 17

2012 Partnered with TWS supporting Park Service in lawsuit to preserve commercial packing and saddle stock use in Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks (SEKI, CA)
At the request of BCHA and TWS, Senator Feinstein passes bill to prevent NPS cancelation of commercial guide contracts at SEKI
Dennis Dailey retires; recruits Randy Rasmussen to replace him as half-time contractor

2013 BCHA conducts Public Lands Workshops in OR, WY, NV, CO and CA
Government Accountability Office issues report on dismal state of National Forest trail system
BCHA, American Horse Council, and TWS shape committee structure for advocating for National Forest System Trails Stewardship Act.

2014 Rep. Cynthia Lummis (WY) introduces first Forest Trails Stewardship bill
Over 400 letters submitted to Bryce Canyon NP (UT) opposing proposal to require private horse owners to hire a commercial wrangler. Park drops proposal and works with BCH UT on rider education.
BCHA and BCH CA meet with Supt. of Sequoia-Kings Canyon NPS to convey expectations regarding forthcoming Wilderness Stewardship Plan
BCHA contingent that includes founder Ken Ausk celebrates 50th anniversary of Wilderness Act at Smithsonian Museum of Natural History
Yellowstone NP agrees to relax proposed restrictions in Stock Outfitter-Guide Plan

2015 Randy Rasmussen shifts to full-time staff position via generous contribution by Jim and Cindy McGarvey
BCHA and BCH CA satisfied with SEKI Final Wilderness Plan, which approves several new horse camps at existing trailheads
Senator Mike Enzi (WY) submits 2nd Forest Trails Act
BCHA Directors pass Resolution to Oppose the Transfer or Sale of Federal Public Lands

2016 BCHA delivers keynote address opposing federal lands transfer at National Equestrian Trails Conference (SC)
U.S. House of Representatives approves Forest Trails bill
BCHA joins allies to educate members of Congress to defeat Bikes-in-Wilderness bill
Yosemite NP (CA) responds to BCHA request by holding Wilderness Science Workshop
Senate passes Forest Trails bill
National Forest System Trails Stewardship Act signed into law by President Obama *Note: BHCA's biggest success came via spurring national dialogue and action to make trails a priority within the USFS.*

2017 Forest Service Chief Tidwell thanks BCHA for volunteer efforts over 45 years and its leadership in shaping and moving the Trails bill
BCHA speaker at AERC annual convention (TX) and Grassroots

Outdoor Alliance Tradeshow (NM) regarding federal land transfer

At meeting, Supt. of Mount Rainier NP (WA) commits to BCHA and BCH WA to include alternatives in forthcoming Wilderness Plan for increased stock use

Randy Rasmussen elected to National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance (NWSA) board of directors to represent BCHA
NWSA launches new grant program with \$250,000 from the USFS in response to Trails Act. Program runs annually for 6+ yrs.

Storer Foundation awards BCHA \$20,000 grant in recognition of BCHA's continuing efforts opposing Federal Land Transfer and actions to oppose Bikes-in-Wilderness bill

2018 USFS receives additional \$2.5 million for trails from Congress as direct result of lobbying by BCHA and partners
BCHA and BCH OR work with NPS to reverse agency proposal to greatly restrict stock use in newly expanded Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve
USFS Issues 10-Year Trail Challenge, prompted in part by BCHA's efforts on 2016 Trails Act
Storer Foundation awards another \$20,000 grant to BCHA to fight public lands transfer
Jaime Schmidt, USFS National Trails Program Manager: "Without the Trails Act, trails would not be on the agency's radar"

2019 Shaped national sign-on letter to federal agencies from the trails and recreation community expressing opposition to policy changes that might authorize motorized vehicles (e-bikes) on non-motorized trails. Letter earned national media coverage, with BCHA often highlighted.
With partner TWS, BCHA and BCH CA file lawsuit against Tahoe National Forest's authorization of e-bike use on over 130 miles of non-motorized trails. A forest spokesperson characterized the e-bike authorization as a "trial" for more such changes by other national forests.

2020 Public Lands Committee under Chairman Jerry Bentz adopts regional strategy, designates regional co-chairs
BCHA/TWS attorneys negotiate early settlement of Tahoe Forest lawsuit that forces agency to withdraw its e-bike approval
Congress passes Great American Outdoors Act, which includes significant funding to begin addressing agency maintenance backlog. BCHA worked with partners to ensure the bill included the US Forest Service.

2021 BHCA works with BCH NM to reverse proposal for shared e-bike use on a non-motorized trail system in Lincoln National Forest
In response to BCHA push, USFS issues memo to educate field offices on the problem of parties without stock occupying horse camps
BCHA circulates Horse Camp Report form to identify the extent of the problem
BCHA and allies again beat back Bikes-in-Wilderness bill
Congress proposes bipartisan infrastructure Act, which includes \$250 million for the USPS Legacy Roads and Trails program, which BCHA and BCH WA promoted

BCHC NEWS

2022 BCHA works with BCH AZ to reverse proposal for e-bike use on over 120 miles of non-motorized trails throughout the Verde Ranger District (Prescott National Forest)
 Randy Rasmussen asked to chair American Horse Council's Recreation, Trails & Land Use Committee
 BCHA blocks proposal by the e-bike industry to define e-bikes in federal law as "bicycles or other forms of human-powered vehicles"
 Randy Rasmussen elected chair of National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance board of directors, representing BCHA



ATTENTION Persons 18-30 Years Old:

Packer Intern Scholarship June - Sept 2023

Don't miss this amazing opportunity with Lee Roeser and Michael Morse of the Inyo NF Pack Stock Center of Excellence and Agnes Vianzon of the Eastern Sierra Conservation Corp!

Interns will:

- Assist Forest Service Packers to pack in trail crews and supplies throughout the Sierras,
- See stunning untouched countryside,
- Learn invaluable packing experience from seasoned professionals,
- Gain a great respect for the necessity of keeping packing alive!

Applications due May 1, 2023

For information only. The May 1 application deadline will have passed by the time you receive this newspaper.

Eastern Sierra Conservation Corps & US Forest Service with Backcountry Horsemen of California present the **USFS PACK STOCK CENTER OF EXCELLENCE APPRENTICESHIP INTERN PROGRAM**

Summary:

The intern will be a corps member under the Eastern Sierra Conservation Corps (ESCC), a youth and young adult leadership and development program and will work directly with Forest Service Packers and Backcountry Horseman. This intern will be specifically trained in pack stock use, along with many other skills.

Back Country Horsemen of California (BCHC) aspires to support one Packer Intern each year. The intern will be located at the Center of Excellence (COE) in Mammoth Lakes California, as they are best equipped to teach the intern all of the goals that we in turn wish this program to achieve. In addition, the Center of Excellence provides consistent, professional staff that work directly with BCHC to accomplish our similar goals.

The mission of this program is to recruit and train an Intern that may become the new generation of highly skilled packer, trail workers, wilderness managers and volunteers that have a strong desire to protect our public lands, while preserving traditional wilderness skills and maintaining accessibility.

This is an all-inclusive training program in the use of pack stock as a traditional tool, humane stock handling and packing procedures. Mule and horsemanship as well as safety, are the cornerstones that this training is based on. Also included in the program is; Leave No Trace (LNT) practices for stock users, wilderness management, trail maintenance and all the details that go into a safe, productive and efficient, packing operation. Safety is integrated into all Pack Stock COE activities facilitating a culture of safety for both people and animals.

The Packer Intern will develop the skills and knowledge to help perpetuate the commonsense use of horses in America's backcountry and wilderness and will develop the skills and knowledge necessary to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use; whether as an employee of the agencies, or as a private citizen.

16 weeks (June 6th - September 23rd)

Work is primarily based in Mammoth Lakes, CA, and remote wilderness locations within the Inyo National Forest

Taxable monthly stipend of approximately \$2560

Detailed descriptions of Duties, Qualifications, Job Requirements, Qualities, Abilities and experiences that will benefit applicant, Responsibility, Physical Effort, Working Conditions, Compensation and Benefits may be found in the official job announcement.

If you have any questions, please email Cindy McMurry, mcmurrcindy@gmail.com or call (530) 640-0429.

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

1/12/2023 through 4/14/2023

BENEFACTOR (\$100)

Eastern Sierra	Bill Carter Troy Patton
High Sierra	Ruth Gerson Nancy Hamill Jacob Hamstra Trish Pendegraft
Kern Sierra	Brad Allen of Rosedale Farrier Supply Mylon Filkins, DVM Larry Mumford
Lake-Mendo Los Padres	Tim Holliday Kaye Bruns Robin Cederlof William Chaides Eve Devine Laurie Henry Jessica Schley Laura D. Wimer
Mid Valley	Tony Alamo Karen Barindelli Jay Barnes Gary A. Cain Bob Cooper Carol Jo Hargreaves Rian Hudson Bob Magee Jennifer Marshall John V. Marshall MID VALLEY UNIT John Schaapman
Mother Lode	Tom Cooper Donna Jones Furlow Jaede Miloslavich Stephanie Williams
North Bay Redshank Riders	Lynn Cominsky Renee Aberle Ron Robertson
Redwood San Diego	Carole & Darrel Polasek Barbara Hughes Walt J. Kirkwood

BENEFACTOR (\$100)

San Diego	Betsy Mellor Lynda & Michael Sterns
San Joaquin Sierra	John Cunningham Stephen Naylor
Sequoia	Kathryn C. Bennett Donald M. McMillan
Sequoia	Frank Schlitz Jamie Wilson, DVM
Shasta Trinity	Lyle Charter Ken Hartman Lori Henderson George Poppic, Jr. Laura Rodger

PATRON (\$250)

High Country High Sierra	Lynn Saunders Richard Cochran Karl Pendegraft Sonia Shepard McLellan
Kern Sierra	Willi Coeler Lynn Joiner
Los Padres Mid Valley Sequoia	Otis Calef Dennis M. Serpa Jim Holly Jan Walker
Shasta Trinity	Bruce McGowan

MT. WHITNEY (\$500)

Eastern Sierra	Sarah C. Sheehan
Kern Sierra	Roger Whitaker
Mid Valley	Terri Arington Lloyd Erlandson
Mother Lode	Catherine Godwin
Pacific Crest	Craig Bugajski
Redshank Riders	Allison Renck
Shasta Trinity	Dean Angelides
Sutter Buttes	Kay Walters

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.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

**We look forward
to meeting you!**

**The following new members joined BCHC from
1/12/2023 through 4/14/2023**

High Country High Sierra	Olivia Smutz Bethany and Josh Golden Stefanie Gorby Maureen Stevens Amber Taunton and Steve Dillard
Los Padres	Kathy Grbac Trevor Thompson Helen Wood Vinokurov
Mid Valley	Cliff and Gina Francis Brenda McKay Robert and Karen Sayers
Mother Lode	Lisa Cordy and Tim McCulloch Michael W. Cortez David and JaLayne Grow Sandy Ives Alexandra Rauchfuss Sheri Jean Rodrigues Joyce Syftestad
Redshank Riders	Krystal Castro James DeJohn Afton Gome Bobbiann and Sadie Kinzenbaw Logan Larsen Monique Marton and Charles Smith Shauna Rose
Redwood San Diego	Krisanne Keiser Urszula Kietlinska Lori Meador-Wendland and Scott Wendland Betsy Mellor Gisela and Udo Putzke
Santa Ana River	Ranae Burke Kimberly McWilliam
Shasta Trinity	Carl and Linda Bott Erin Greysen Doug and Michelle Maxfield Charles and Carissa Morris Ron Pember
Sierra Freepackers Top of the State	Billie and Cody Gunderson Kyle and Ashley Adkins Megan, Randy & Danny Rakisits

WHY JOIN BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA?

(From bchcalifornia.org)

As a member, you'll:

- Get to participate in state and unit activities
- Learn valuable backcountry skills and outdoor ethics
- Gain new friends in our wonderful members
- Receive the BCHC newsletter
- Be kept up to date on public lands issues
...and more!

Even if you don't ride or aren't an active member, your dues contribute to our cause! You'll be helping pay for work projects, educational materials, training and insurances. Help support our efforts to keep trails open to equestrians!

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.)

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 Membersio. **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

BCHC Units Around the State

ANTELOPE VALLEY

PO Box 84
Pearblossom, CA 93553
www.bchc-avunit.org
Marcy Watton
(661) 878-1791
Mwatton@att.net

EASTERN SIERRA

17 UniB Sunny Slope Rd
Crawley Lake, CA 93549
Anna Baglione
(209) 918-1210
albaglione@ucdavis.edu

HIGH COUNTRY

PO Box 161
Milford, CA 96121
Cindy McMurry
(530) 640-0429
mcmurrycindy@gmail.com

HIGH SIERRA

PO Box 6632
Visalia, CA 93290
www.highsierraunit.org
Dan Baumgardner
(559) 334-7731
danbdrafthorse@yahoo.com

KERN RIVER VALLEY

PO Box 2179
Lake Isabella, CA 93240
4HRanch@earthlink.net
Larry Cigainero
(760) 379-5920
larrybchc@aol.com

KERN SIERRA

16347 Stephenie Rd
Bakersfield, CA 93314-9669
Curtis Harms
(661) 817-5452
mulerider2020@icloud.com

LAKE-MENDO

6980 Potter Valley Rd
Ukiah, CA 95482
Scott Harrison
(707) 234-9512
tpahl@sbcglobal.net

LOS PADRES

Box 472
Atascadero CA 93422
www.bchc-lpunit.org
Greg Feinberg
(805) 458-2879
Feinberg.greg@gmail.com

MID VALLEY

PO Box 1709
Modesto, CA 95353
www.bchcmidvalley.org
Doug Dollarhide
(209) 605-2403
bootsandspur@att.net

MOTHER LODE

PO Box 702
North Highlands, CA 95660
www.bchcmlo.org
Randy Hackbarth
(530) 626-0571
trlyrder@pacbell.net

NORTH BAY

PO Box 9435
Santa Rosa Ca. 95405
www.northbayunit.com
Dan Horn
(707) 953-4903
bearstrap@msn.com

PACIFIC CREST

P.O. Box 720684
Pinon Hills, CA 92372
bchcpacificcrestunit.org
Jennifer Sponsler
(760) 868-1588
jnjspon@aol.com

REDSHANK RIDERS

PO Box 383
Aguanga, CA 92536-0383
www.redshankriders.com
Mike Lewis
(951) 760-9255
president@redshankriders.com
stumblinl55@gmail.com

REDWOOD

PO Box 6023
Eureka, CA 95502-6023
www.redwoodunit.com
Carole Polasek
(707) 786-9637
cell: (707) 599-8021
muleride15@gmail.com

SAN DIEGO

PO Box 833
Descanso, CA 91916.
www.bchcsd.com
Randy Meyers
(619) 507-2210
president@bchcsd.com
juliemeyers619@gmail.com

SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA

PO Box 25693
Fresno, CA 93729-5693
www.bchcsjsu.org.
Joe Kaminski
(559) 909-0505
kaminski clan@gmail.com

SANTA ANA RIVER

PO Box 306
Norco, CA 92860
www.sarubchc.org
Mike Williams
(951) 340-1789
socialhorsemn@yahoo.com

SEQUOIA

PO Box 456
Springville, CA 93265-0579
www.bchc-sequoia.org
Gail Inman
(559) 539-2260
gail.inman@gmail.com

SHASTA TRINITY

206330 Gas Point Rd Ste B2 #48
Cottonwood, CA 96022
www.bchcshastatrinity.org
Laura Rodger
(530) 347-9351
fordoglaura@sbcglobal.net

SIERRA FREEPACKERS

PO Box 64
Oakhurst, CA 93644-0064
www.sierrafreepackers.com
Patricia Vallentyne
(559) 760-6589
pcvallentyne@gmail.com

SUTTER BUTTES

2568 Lake Hills Dr
Butte Valley, CA 95965
Gary Paul
(530) 693-0420
muleguy54@gmail.com

TOP OF THE STATE

PO Box 461
Etna, CA 96027-0461
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

Planning a Trip? Use



You will find the same airlines, hotels, rental cars
and cruises as on other travel websites!

You'll get great travel prices!

Each time you book travel a portion of the travel
commissions will go to support BCHC!

BCHC EARNS 60%

**OF THE
COMMISSIONS!**

It's that simple!

www.ytbtravel.com/bchc

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 beside the trail, on the low side if possible 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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