

# BCHC

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN  
OF CALIFORNIA, INC. 13061

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# The Backcountry News



Volume 31, Issue 1

The Official Publication of Backcountry Horsemen of California

Winter 2019 V5

## PRESERVING TRAILS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS



RENDEZVOUS 2019



The BCHC Rendezvous follows a tradition of gathering together of outdoor enthusiasts. Our event features equine training clinicians, scores of vendors, horse and mule packing seminars, Gentle Use/ Leave No Trace classes, Western Art Show, Awards and Accolades, Dutch Oven Cook-off, Trail Challenge, Beer and Wine tasting, Cowboy Church, Youth Classes, Raffles and Auction. There is always lots to learn, lots of fun, and plenty of horses and mules at the Backcountry Horsemen Rendezvous.

**Let's gather in Norco  
on March 29-31, for the  
2019 Rendezvous!**

# The Backcountry News

An internal publication of the Backcountry Horsemen of California

Editors · Nancy Vaughn and Carol Jo Hargreaves

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Backcountry Horsemen of California Official Website:

[www.bchcalifornia.org](http://www.bchcalifornia.org)

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**Who is BCHC?** The Backcountry Horsemen of California, Inc. is a 501c3 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 advertisements and/or articles that are inconsistent 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.

| Deadline       | Publication Date |        |
|----------------|------------------|--------|
| July 23, 2019  | August 2019      | Summer |
| Oct. 15, 2019  | Oct. 2019        | Fall   |
| Feb. 16, 2020  | Feb. 2020        | Winter |
| April 15, 2019 | May 2019         | Spring |

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

| Number of Issues:  | 1        | 2        | 3        | 4        | } Cost per issue |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------------|
| Full Page          | \$150.00 | \$142.50 | \$135.00 | \$127.50 |                  |
| Half Page (h/v)    | \$100.00 | \$95.00  | \$90.00  | \$85.00  |                  |
| Quarter Page (h/v) | \$80.00  | \$76.00  | \$72.00  | \$68.00  |                  |
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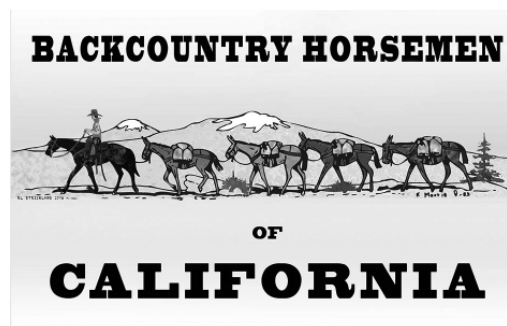
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For more BCHC information, see our website: [bchcalifornia.org](http://bchcalifornia.org)



# PRESIDENT'S PAGE



As I sit to write this article today, Mother Nature is doing a good job of irrigating my almonds. We call this the winter edition of the paper, but at my house, spring is coming fast. Almonds are beginning to bloom and the bees are starting to fly;



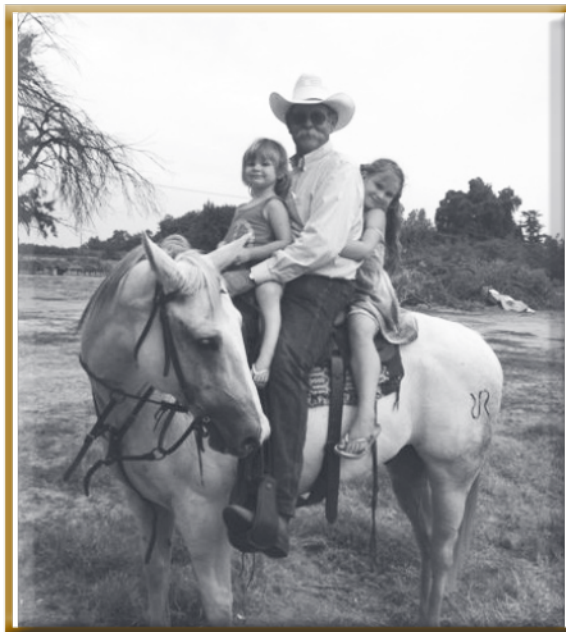
that is when the sun gives them a chance to come out.

You guys in the north part of the state or the mountains are going to have to wait a little while longer before you get to see spring.

This addition should get to you before Rendezvous in Norco. I am looking forward to visiting with as many of you as I can at Rendezvous. This is BCHC's biggest fundraiser of the year, so hope to see you all there.

We just finished our winter Board of Directors meeting in lovely downtown Santa Nella, California. If you don't know where that is, it's almost in the middle of the state, which makes the drive from both ends of the state, a long way. California, being more than 800 miles long and having climates from the hot deserts of El Centro to the rain forests of Eureka, makes me really appreciate the effort our members make in coming to the board meetings. A lot of information changes hands during these meetings and it takes diverse minds to keep us moving forward. Thank you all who attended.

I hope the state directors from your unit have filled you in on what was important to them. One issue that we, as state leaders would like all members to know, is how our 501c3 education part of BCHC works. The governing board of the c3 consists of the President (me), Secretary-Treasurer, Lynn Joiner, Public Lands chairs, Troy and Thor and Education chairs, Stacy and Tom, with Chip Herzig as the advisor. There is a pool of money that gets put into this fund to be used for educational purposes. That can be anything from a formal classroom LNT training, a hands-on pack clinic, saw training or most anything we do that might educate someone about most anything. The money in this fund is for all units to use. All units have some of their own money in this fund that they can use for most anything they want. That comes from each member's dues. Two dollars from each renewal is earmarked for the member's unit and kept in this fund to be given back whenever that unit wants to cover the cost of an educational event. If you're not sure what an educational event is, ask for the money, tell us what you are going to do with it and then the board will tell you if it fits the definition of education. Now, that is just part of the money in this pot. The rest is to be used for grants



to cover the cost of specific projects that your unit is doing. This can be applied for through the grants process. That takes someone who's good at writing, ( not me) to write up an explanation and how much money is needed for a specific project. This fund was set up so that we can take advantage of our tax codes concerning charitable giving.

In order to move forward with BCHC, we are forming a committee to develop a strategic plan. This will be a pathway to the future. We have talked about this for some time but have not gotten very far with it. It is now time to move forward, and with some outside help from people who know the "whats" and "hows", we will develop a plan that moves BCHC further into the future. We are an organization that has become stagnant in our growth and outreach, but we feel with this plan, we will be able to attract more outside money from donors who see the good we do in the forests. What this all means is that

nobody will be after anyone to sell more calendars.

The Camp Fire fund that we so generously donated to has something over \$8000 in it at this time. I want to personally, thank everyone who donated. The response was outstanding and I am grateful for all you generous people. I have been given the task to see that this money now goes to those in the horse community who need assistance. I don't take this lightly and am humbled that the BOD said, "get it done." They did request that we share this money with more than one organization and I will. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your thoughts and sharing of your money. I am still studying where to go with this money, so if anyone has ideas of who might need the help, please let me know. I will be

trying to wrap this up in the next couple of weeks.

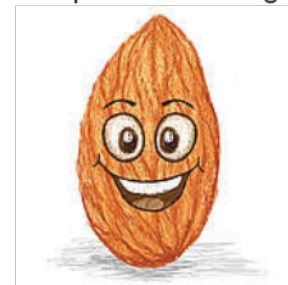
Hope this finds everyone looking forward to a healthy, active and productive spring and summer. Please call me if you would like more information on BCHC or if you would like to step up into a leadership position for the state. It can be taxing at times (like when doing this), but it is also quite interesting to be a part of the big picture.

Happy Trails to you till we meet again,

Lloyd

Cell: (209) 761-3942

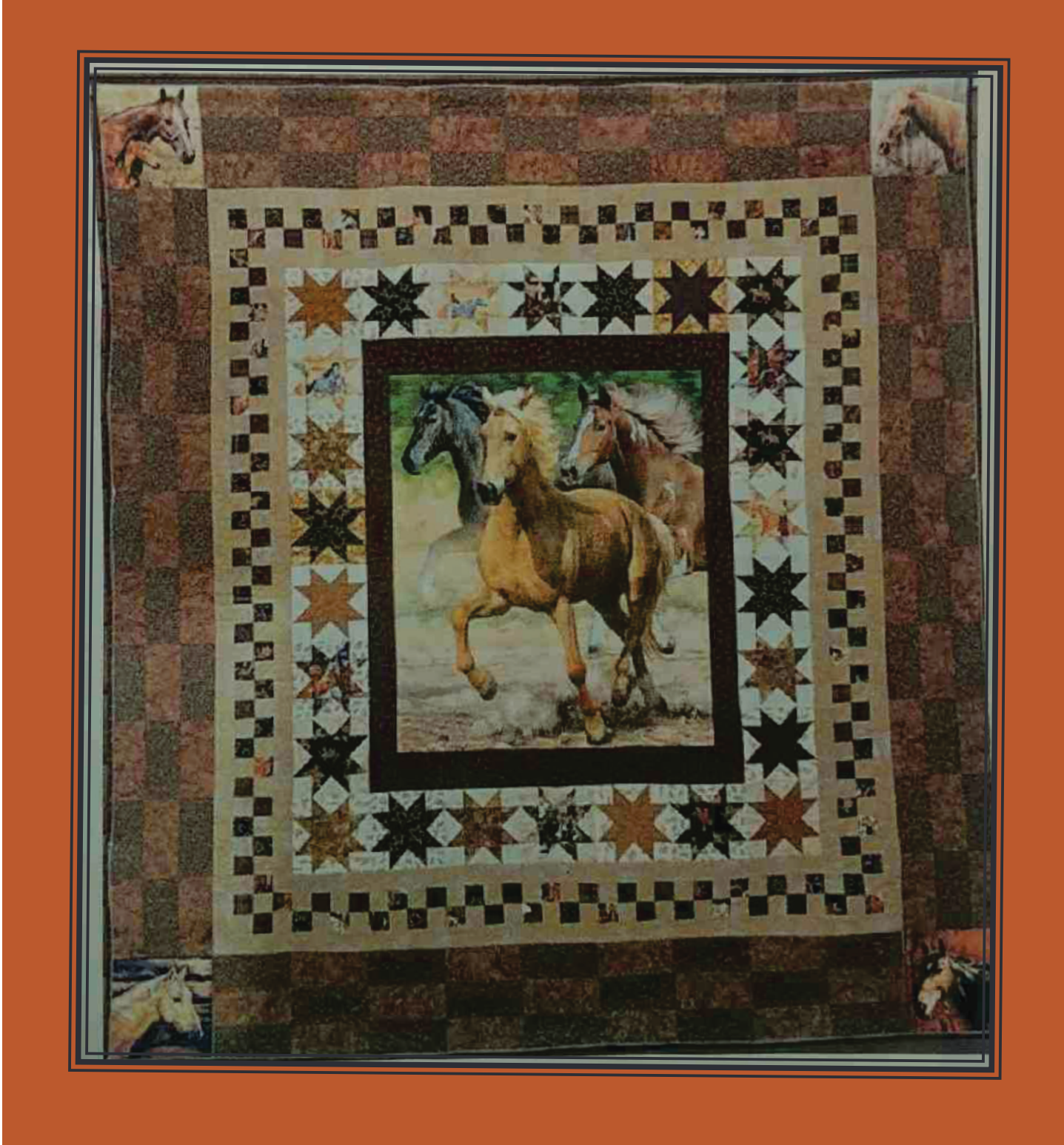
Email: [lloyd.erlandson0@gmail.com](mailto:lloyd.erlandson0@gmail.com)



# RENDEZVOUS

2019 RENDEZVOUS, continued from page 1

**ENTER ONE OF THE RAFFLES AND WIN THIS BEAUTIFUL QUEEN SIZE QUILT, MADE BY LYNN CRAWFORD OF THE SANTA ANA RIVER UNIT.**



# RENDEZVOUS

**Backcountry Horsemen of California Presents**  
**Rendezvous 2019**  
**Western Art Show and Competition**  
 George Ingalls Equestrian Event Center  
 March 29-31, 2019



**"Preserving Trails for Future Generations"**  
 All ages encouraged to participate. Art work will be divided into a variety of different categories and age groups giving everyone a chance to win.

## 2019 RENDEZVOUS PACKING ACTIVITIES

- PACKING 101: Training**  
**PACKING COMPETITIONS**
1. BOX HITCH SPEED COMPETITION:
  2. DIAMOND HITCH SPEED COMPETITION:
  3. PACKING CONTEST (ODD LOAD):

## WILDERNESS RIDER PROGRAM

**SIGN UP NOW - INTERVIEWS HELD AT RENDEZVOUS, NORCO**  
 Contact Thomas Firth (951) 551 - 9711  
 or Stacy Kuhns (909) 633 - 1705

The Wilderness Rider program is a partnership between Backcountry Horsemen of California, the National Park Service, the USDA Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Wilderness Riders are trained stock users who have made a commitment to educating others about the value of wild lands and the importance of Gentle Use / Leave No Trace Skills.

**BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA**



**BEER, WINE  
 & CHEESE TASTING!**



Backcountry Horsemen of California proudly presents  
**DAVE STAMEY**  
 Friday, March 29, 2019 at 8pm  
 in concert at the 2019 Rendezvous at the  
 George Ingalls Equestrian Center, Norco, CA

**BCHC Rendezvous 2019**  
**Dutch Oven Cooking Competition**  
 Open to non-professionals only!



Backcountry Horsemen of California  
**RENDEZVOUS**

**2019 RENDEZVOUS TRAIL OBSTACLE CHALLENGE**

MARCH 29 - 31, 2019  
 INGALLS EQUESTRIAN CENTER  
 NORCO, CA

# PUBLIC LANDS



## PUBLIC LANDS YEAR IN REVIEW

By Troy Patton CO-VP

Since we are starting a new year, I wanted to give you some information on what happens to all the Legislative items we have been discussing all year. At the end of each legislative session, any bill that was not passed by the House and the Senate and signed into law by the President dies. This means that several of the bills we were following are now gone, including HR1349 Bikes in the Wilderness by Tom McClintock as well as SB2877 Human Powered Travel by Mike Lee.

Unfortunately, this included the Natural Resources Management Act which included the Land, Water and Conservation Fund. The bill had passed the House but did not see action by the Senate. This is a very important bill to people who love public lands since it has funding and protection so that the Forest Service, BLM, Park Service and other land management agencies can use the Act to acquire land for the public use. Because this was a popular bill, with bi-partisan support, it was immediately introduced back to the Senate by Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski, and Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia. There were over 100 other bills incorporated into this bill and many states added things they were passionate about for their areas. It became Bill S47 Natural Resources Management Act. There were many amendments requested and some were added. Ultimately it passed the Senate by a vote of 92 to 8. This was a great bi-partisan victory. It has not been given a number in the House, but it is felt it will move quickly since the House already approved the basic bill last year. Please let your Representative know that you support this bill.

Last year BCHC wrote a letter regarding Red Rock Canyon State Park and their plan to open areas (Nightmare Gulch) to off-road vehicles. This is in the desert near Mojave and it is very hot in the summer and very cold in the winter. Most equestrians use it in the spring and fall. However, the area is closed from February to July due to raptor nesting in the area. There were concerns from local units of BCHC (Antelope Valley, Kern River Valley, and Kern Sierra), Jerry Stone, Mike Hughes and Steve Cozzetto helped with information. They gave input for the letter on keeping this a horse and hiking only area. They also suggested that it be closed to all off-road vehicles permanently due to the damage that

has been done. They also suggested putting in a water source and allowing overnight camping.

In the San Diego area, Terry Jorgensen had been working tirelessly to re-establish or re-route trails in Anza Borrego and Cuyamaca State Park. For over three years she had been involved in the General Plan and the Roads and Trail Maintenance Plan, but it all came to a halt when Governor Brown ordered a reorganization of the State Park system. Finally, at the beginning of this year, she was able to get the new person of State Parks in charge to listen to her concerns and the first public meeting was held to get the program back on track.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the Forest Service have announced that the Spring 2019 Northern California Forest and Watershed opened a Request for Proposals with \$4.86 million now available for projects. There is more information at [www.nfwf.org/nocal](http://www.nfwf.org/nocal). The Eldorado and Lassen National Forests have partnered with NFWF to restore watershed and ecosystems damaged by the fires. The Klamath, Shasta Trinity and Six Rivers Forests have also partnered with NFWF to repair fish passage barriers and watershed infrastructure. NFWF invites Sierra Nevada meadow restoration projects that will benefit the Desert Terminal Lakes basins. The projects should:

1. Provide sustainable and lasting benefits to forest watersheds
2. Provide ecological resilience to watersheds
3. Provide additional efficiency and innovation to improve forest health and repair critical infrastructures such as trails, stream crossings and roads that benefit fish and wildlife.

For additional information contact NFWF Candace Leong at 415 593-8253 or [Candace.leong@nfwf.org](mailto:Candace.leong@nfwf.org).

With the government shut-down, many of our friends and neighbors were furloughed and things came to a halt in most of our Forests. For most of us, work plans were put on hold, and the planning of future work parties came to a halt. In the Eastern Sierra, the Inyo Forest Plan objection and resolution meeting was postponed. This also affected the planning phases for the Sequoia and Sierra Forests who are still working on their plans. Please contact Thor or me if you have any concerns or hear of any new bills we should be looking at.

Thor Bodtke - [thunder.t@hotmail.com](mailto:thunder.t@hotmail.com)

Troy Patton - [bludog46@gmail.com](mailto:bludog46@gmail.com)



# BCHC STATE BOARD MEETING

## STATE BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

By Susie Patton, BCHC State Secretary

Our State Board Meeting was once again held at Pea Soup Andersen's in Santa Nella. For many of us it was a rainy, snowy journey finding alternate routes from our homes.

The Public Lands meeting began at 9:00 a.m. with Co-VP Troy Patton speaking about S47 which permanently reauthorizes the Land and Water Conservation Act –it is being discussed and amended in the Senate this coming week and is expected to pass both the Senate and the House. We very much want this Bill to pass as it provides funds to acquire land for trails and recreation going forward.

The Education portion of the meeting was presented by Co-VP Stacy Kuhns talking about New Officer trainings that have been held in the South, North and Central regions. The Education people are also working on a Stewardship program in partnership with the PCTA. There will be more information about this soon. There was a decision made to work up a presentation and plan for attending the Greenways Conference each year where we can be presenters, and include how we would fund the plan. Stacy told us that the Rendezvous Committee is planning a great event in Norco for March 29, 30 & 31, 2019. We are also starting plans for an April 2020 Rendezvous to be held in Red Bluff.

During the Board of Directors part of the meeting, Lynn Joiner presented the Treasurer's Report and Chip Herzig reminded the Directors that every Unit has money in their Education Fund that comes from their membership dollars. The Units can access this money for an Educational purpose by contacting Lynn Joiner. Chip will be sending out a report soon that gives each Unit the amount in their account. He also reminded the Directors that there are Grant monies available for Educational projects. You must write up the Grant and it will be reviewed by a Committee and you will be notified if you will be awarded the money. Lynn also reminded Units that they should not have their own tax ID number. If your Unit has one, let Lynn know. Directors were also reminded that any donation to their Units needs to be deposited by Lynn Joiner in their Ed Fund account for it to be tax deductible. She is the one who issues the receipts for a tax deduction. Chip Herzig talked about declining membership and the need to retain our current members and recruit new members. There is a Handbook on the BCHC website with lots of good ideas. We had the first reading of a new bylaw to have Youth non-voting memberships for ages 12 to 17 and Young Adult voting memberships for ages 18-24 for a cost of \$15 each. The second reading will be in October 2019. We are also working to revise our new Youth Policy. We hope to have more information soon about fingerprinting and background checks for Unit members who work with children programs.

We are very proud of our members and others for stepping up and donating \$15,000 to the Camp Fire Fund. We already furnished a load of hay and will soon be sending the remainder of the money to other ag-related groups who desperately need monetary help.

After a highly successful intern program in 2018, the Board of Directors will again ask the Units to donate money to sponsor an intern for 2019. The Forest Service and BCHC were very happy about this program and would like to see it continue.

Two of our members, Chip Herzig and Dan Horn have been hard at work to formulate a Strategic Plan for BCHC. This is a necessary component for BCHC to grow and move forward as it will allow us to solicit sponsors and donations. However, they felt they did not know how to make the leap to the actual plan. The Board of Directors requested that we research the cost of hiring a consultant to take us forward.

### BCHC Board of Directors Meeting Upcoming BCHC Board of Directors Meetings:

October 11 & 12, 2019 in Santa  
Nella, CA

#### Executive Board Meeting:

Friday, October 11th at 6:00 p.m. in  
the Terrace Room  
(Dinner off the menu on your own –  
limited seating for guests)

#### Education and Public Lands Committee:

Saturday, October 12th at 9:00 a.m.  
in the Santa Nella Room.

#### Board of Directors Meeting:

Saturday, October 12th, will follow  
as soon as Education and Public  
Lands adjourn.

Directors are expected to attend  
9:00 a.m. session as information  
will not be repeated.

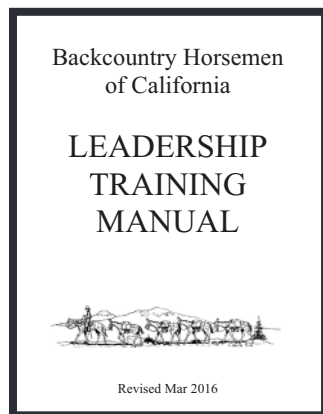
# BCHC EDUCATION

## BCHC Leadership Training

January 12, 2019, BCHC members gathered at the Little Red School House in Anza, for an informative leadership training session. Although the weather was challenging the information presented more than compensated for the inconvenience and hopefully, everyone went away with some new and valuable information pertaining to BCHC.



Little Red School House, Azna CA.





# Rendezvous 2019 Sponsors

SPECIAL THANKS ----

to our **SPONSORS!**

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Please patronize the following businesses who generously sponsors BCHC's 2019 Rendezvous!

- Dan Horn Pack and Saddlery
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# BCHA: Dedicated to keeping America's trails open for all.

## BCHA NATIONAL MEETING

**Asheville, NC, April 7-11**

By National Board Director Bob Magee

Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) will hold its 2019 National Board Meeting, April 7-11, at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Asheville, North Carolina. The meeting will cover the typical business items needed to run a large nationwide organization. Typically, two days of business items, committee reports, nominations of new officers and executive committee members and development of action plans followed by a day of public lands information and presentations by other groups.

Asheville is a city in western North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains. It's known for a vibrant arts scene and historic architecture, including the dome-topped Basilica of Saint Lawrence. The vast 19<sup>th</sup> century Biltmore estate displays artwork by old masters like Renoir. The Downtown Art District is filled with galleries and museums and, in the nearby River Arts District, former factory buildings house artists' studios.

Nearby is the Pisgah National Forest, a land of mile-high peaks, cascading waterfalls and heavily forested slopes. Comprised of over 500,000 acres, the Pisgah is primarily a hardwood forest with whitewater rivers, waterfalls and hundreds of miles of trails. This national forest is home of the first tract of land purchased under the Weeks Act of 1911 which led to the creation of the national forests in the eastern United States. It is also home of the first school of forestry in the United States, now preserved at the Cradle of Forestry in America historic site, boasting of two of the first designated wilderness areas in the east. The Pisgah, Grandfather and Appalachian Ranger Districts are scattered along the eastern edge of the mountains of western North Carolina and offer visitors a variety of opportunities for outdoor recreation and enjoyment of the natural beauty of the mountains.



## BCHA Seeks Nominations

By Dennis Serpa

Happy New Year to all! Time to start out our 2019 business for BCHA. I have been appointed as the Nominations chair and we now have to think about who we want to lead us for the new year. At the National Board Meeting in April, we have to elect new officers and executive members whose terms are expired. A Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Treasurer will be elected for one year terms with two year limits. We have one non-director position and two director positions up for election that are elected for two year terms. We all have to give some serious thought as who will lead us into the future. We all have ideas of those dedicated individuals who have put BCHA in forefront and could continue with this dedication in leading BCHA. Talk with these individuals and convince them to put their resume into the hat for consideration. We would like the resumes into the committee by March 1. Please send to Dennis Serpa at [dmserpa@velociter.net](mailto:dmserpa@velociter.net).

Respectfully the Nominating Committee,

Dennis Serpa, Chair [dmserpa@velociter.net](mailto:dmserpa@velociter.net)  
Casey Hufstader, [Chpackstring@aol.com](mailto:Chpackstring@aol.com)  
Melinda Wagner, [melindawagner68@Yahoo.com](mailto:melindawagner68@Yahoo.com)

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## BCHA PUBLIC LANDS

By Freddy Dunn, Chairman

### **Congress Overwhelmingly Supports Public Lands Bill Contact Your Member Today to Say "Thanks!"**

Dear Members,  
You helped do it! This week, the House of Representatives voted to permanently reauthorize LWCF by a vote of 363 to 62. In a rare turn of events, Congress displayed overwhelming bipartisan support for America's most important conservation and recreation program, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). See how your representative voted [here](#).

Earlier this month, the U.S. Senate passed LWCF on a vote of 92-8. LWCF is one of nearly 100 public lands-related provisions in Senate Bill 47, the Natural Resources Management Act. See how your senators voted [here](#).

Please take time to call your representative and senators to thank them for supporting the Public Lands bill (S. 47) and the Land and Water Conservation Fund

Contact information for your representative can be found by going [here](#). cont.

# BCHA



## New Grants Committee Formed

By Karen Saner

We have recently created a Grants committee. The committee is a standing committee that will disseminate grants to states and chapters. Members of this committee include: Karen Saner (WY) Chairman, Jacque Alexander (AR) Recorder, Joanne Mitchell (TN), Michael Murphy (CA) and David Beary (IA). Watch for information on how to apply for grants after February 1 on our website.

Dates for 2019 Grants are as follows:

January 1 through March 15th - Apply for grants.

March 16th – March 30th - Committee will look and decide which grants get funded.

At the National BCHA Board Meeting during the final dinner on April 10, the grants will be handed out. If no one from the receiving party is there, the check will be mailed the following week. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Karen Saner at sanerent@gmail.com with BCHA GRANTS in the subject line and I will get back to you!

Here is to a great and fruitful year!

Karen Saner, Grants Committee Chairwoman  
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- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same Amazon Prime benefits.

Contact information for your senators can be found here.  
BCHA Worked Several Years to Support the LWCF Coalition  
Thanks to your calls and emails, S. 47 will now be sent to the President's desk for signature. This is the culmination of a years-long effort by Congressional champions on both sides of the aisle, and by stakeholders across the country, to preserve this critical conservation program.

Additional Information on LWCF

First signed into law on September 3, 1964, LWCF established a dedicated means for the conservation and protection of America's irreplaceable natural, historic, cultural and outdoor landmarks. LWCF is the only federal program dedicated to the continued conservation of our national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, wilderness, civil war battlefields, as well as creating and developing state and local parks, and building or expanding over 1,000 trail projects across the country.

LWCF is rightly characterized as America's most important conservation program. It does not use any taxpayer dollars – it is funded using a small portion of revenues from offshore oil and gas royalty payments.

LWCF has funded 42,000 projects across the country, bringing tremendous economic benefits and returns on investment since it was established. According to the Department of the Interior, each LWCF dollar invested in a community generates four times that amount in economic activity.

LWCF has expired twice in recent years. This week's bill reauthorizing the law prevents any future expirations. It also includes a bipartisan "sportsmen's package" designed to enhance access for hunting, fishing, and other recreation activities (read: horse access!) on public lands and waters by setting aside 3% of all LWCF monies to provide access for isolated and inaccessible public lands

For more information on LWCF, including the places in each state protected by LWCF funds, visit [www.lwcfcoalition.com](http://www.lwcfcoalition.com).

Thank you for taking action and contacting your members of Congress today!

Sincerely,  
Freddy Dunn, Chairman  
*Re-printed from BCHA materials.*

# BCHC MEMBER PROFILE

## TEAMWORK ALL THE WAY!

By Walt and Suzie Kirkwood - President and Treasurer San Diego Unit

Walt acquiesced to Suzie's love of horses and riding in about 1987 when Suzie had the opportunity to feed lease a 30-year-old Tennessee Walking Horse. Walt decided to take riding lessons and started trail riding with Suzie so that we could spend our leisure time doing something together that we both enjoyed. And we've been riding together ever since! Suzie's motto is "the couple that rides together stays together!" And it seems to be working. 48 years this year!

Our first horse camping adventure was in October 1988. We rode our horses from the boarding stable in Descanso to Los Caballos Horse Camp in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park because we didn't own a horse trailer! We got a late start and it gets dark early in October. It was a moonless night, but the horses found the trail to the camp and brought us into camp about 9:30 p.m. We camped for a few days and rode back to Descanso in the rain. We couldn't wait to camp with the horses again. Before too long, Suzie sold her grand piano so we could buy our first horse trailer. We're still horse camping, but our rig has gotten somewhat larger!

We've been BCHC members since about the mid-1990s. For many years while we were both working (Walt as a self-employed general building contractor and Suzie as a CPA), we were only dues-paying members and didn't have time for much participation. Since we're both retired, we've increased our participation in unit activities. Suzie has been Treasurer of the San Diego unit since 2017. Walt became President this year. We acknowledged to our unit that this was not the best arrangement, from a nonprofit management perspective. But since no one else was willing to assume the positions, the members want us to continue in our roles. To mitigate the perception of the possibility of unauthorized transactions, we will conduct an internal audit of our financial activity. We hope to implement this procedure as a permanent part of our annual unit procedures, conforming to nonprofit "best practices." We encourage other units and BCHC to do the same.

In 1994, we took our trail riding to another level when we joined the Mounted Assistance Unit (MAU) at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park near San Diego. We remained active with MAU for 20 years, each of us serving as Unit Coordinator and several terms on the Advisory Committee. We were also trainers for the MAU for most of our involvement. We also developed an Interpretive Ride and led park visitors on guided horseback rides through the park, providing interesting information about park history.

In 1996 we moved from La Mesa in suburban San Diego to Descanso, a community in the mountains about 45 miles east of San Diego. We love our home among the oak trees. Horses have really taken over our lives since we moved and can keep the horses at home with us. We say that once a horse arrives here, it never leaves! That's why we now have eight equines.

Although we loved our gaited horses, problems with neurologic deficits have made us turn to a non-gaited breed so that we can continue riding. Our herd includes 3 TWH with neurologic issues, a 28-year-old mule and a mini mule. #6 is Royal, a grade quarter type who became terrified when his saddle slipped onto his side on a trail ride when Walt dismounted. He bolted off and became entangled in thick brush. You may have seen him on Facebook or even on the news. He was stuck in the brush with all his tack in place for six days in August 2016. In spite of over 100 hikers, cyclists and equestrians, most of whom we didn't know, State Parks air patrol and a San Diego Police

Department helicopter with heat-sensing ability searching for him, he wasn't found until he was finally able to shake or scape off all his tack and return to the exact spot where he ran off. There were also trackers and scent dogs, who couldn't find a trace of where he went. That was a terrible week for us, one we have no desire to ever experience again. We have not had the courage to take Royal back on the trail, but he enjoys doing obstacles in a safely enclosed area. #7 and 8 are our current riding horses, Gypsy and Kahlua, Haflinger mares.

At the end of August 2001, we rode a 10-day pack trip out of Horseshoe Meadow with fellow BCHC members, Steve and Mary Randall, who had packed many years in the Sierras. We camped at Little Whitney Meadow and Big Whitney Meadow, day riding out of both camps. It was the adventure of a lifetime for us.

In 2003 we traveled to the Parelli Ranch in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, for two weeks of instruction with my 23-year-old TWH mare and Walt's 18-year-old Missouri Fox Trotter gelding. This was the beginning of a journey that we're still enjoying. In 2007 and 2008 we accompanied Parelli instructor and former Packer Mark Berry with several other enthusiastic folks on a Mustang adventure. We rode our horses into a trail camp operated by Rock Springs Outfitters. We were escorted by the outfitter's guides out into the wild Mustang range to observe the Mustangs in their natural environment. It was such a thrill to see the mustangs being wild and free!

In 2004, we added another volunteer endeavor when we joined the San Gorgonio Wilderness Association (SGWA) equestrian unit. Riding in the San Gorgonio Wilderness, with its 7,000+ foot elevation, single track, switch-back trails and rushing water crossings is Cuyamaca on steroids! In September 2012 we completed a Leave No Trace Trainer course with SGWA. Between horse health issues and fires in the wilderness, we haven't been able to patrol for a few years, but hope to return this year with our Haflingers. During our volunteer patrols at both Cuyamaca and San Gorgonio, we performed trail work whenever needed, which was quite often.



Walt and Suzie at Eagle Rock on the PCT near Warner Springs.

# BCHC MEMBER PROFILE



**Suzie, George and BB, who carried the mail for 150th "Jackass Mail" re-enactment.**

Especially after the Cedar Fire in Cuyamaca, the dead trees and brush were (and still are) continually falling and blocking trails. It's a never-ending task.

In March 2005 we rode the canyon mules into the bottom of the Grand Canyon with our friends, Mary and Steve Randall. It had snowed the night before our ride, so we bundled up and wore our long oilskin dusters. The temperature rose as we descended into the canyon and the layers came off. What a thrill, to ride high over the Colorado River on the mules across the suspension bridge! We spent two nights at Phantom Ranch in a cabin and hiked up to Ribbon Falls. We have wonderful memories of this adventure!

In June 2007 we helped organize and participated in the 150<sup>th</sup>-anniversary re-enactment of the "Jackass Mail." The original mail route was from San Antonio to San Diego. Suzie rode through Cuyamaca Rancho State Park to Descanso on George the MFT and ponied BB the mule (yes, she's the 28-year-old). BB carried the U.S. mail in a special leather mailbag and delivered it to the postmaster in Descanso. BB seemed to like the attention she received as the special mail carrying mule.

In June 2018 we went to Scotland on a ten-day tour, which we thoroughly enjoyed. At the end of the tour we went on two all-day pony treks in the



**Kids, George and BB.**

highlands with an adventurous guide. The landscape was stunning and the history that the guide shared with us was fascinating. We were thrilled on our second ride to see a large herd of red deer.

We enjoy attending Rendezvous when we can. In 2010 we brought our seven and nine-year-old grandsons to Rendezvous in Merced to participate in the special youth events. We're looking forward to Rendezvous in Norco this year and hope to attend the one in 2020 in Red Bluff.

Walt's first year as unit president is just getting started, but the unit has plenty of activities on the calendar. We'll be camping at Vern Whitaker Horse Camp in Anza Borrego Desert State Park in the middle of February, and at Joshua Tree National Park in April. In March we hold a Tack Sale/Swap Meet Fundraiser that has been very successful in the past. In May we perform our service weekend at Los Vaqueros Horse Camp in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park and in November our service weekend at Vern Whitaker. Several of our members will be riding in the Mule Days parade in Bishop on Memorial Day Weekend. We have several local day rides scheduled as well. We welcome members from other units to join us on any of our rides, campouts or service projects. Please bring proof of BCHC membership for insurance purposes if you decide to join us. We hope to see you on the trail this year!



**Walt on George and Suzie on Seymour on MAU patrol at CRSP.**



**Walt doing trail work at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park.**

# MEMBERSHIP

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Chip and Linda Herzig

The great news first! We gained 228 new members in 2018! That is the best growth we've had in many years. Keep up the good work! Now the bad news ...we lost 261 members in that same period. That news at our semi-annual Board of Directors meeting generated several calls for a fix-it. My cut at the keeping of our members has to do with engagement. When we first joined, I was utterly impressed with the interface with our unit president. He called and welcomed us plus gave us a package of reading material that defined the who we are, what we do, etc. That kind of welcome sticks with you for a long time. So folks, we need to spend some quality time with our newbies and keep our old members engaged!

At the above Board meeting, we started two new types of memberships. Our National board passed a resolution to give us a younger membership in the age span of 12 to 24 years. We broke that up into

12 to 17 called "Youth" membership and 18 to 24 as "Young Adult" membership types. The reason for the split is to give our new 18-year old's a vote in our unit activities.

Another action item that came out of our recent BOD meeting was the Education Fund \$s issue. For the past several years each renewal and new membership has generated a \$2 deduction that is unit specific. What that means is any unit activity that is on our education side has some accumulated \$s that can help defray unit costs in this activity. Below are the amounts of both this \$2 deduction and membership renewal donations. Some of our members donate to the Ed Fund as they renew their memberships. The sum of these funds is actually your unit's money to be used as you see fit for Educational Events! Call/email/let our State Treasurer know what Educational event you are contemplating and if it fits within our Bylaws, she'll send you a check!

In closing keep up the great work in attracting new members hopefully with that continuing we will recover!

### Education Fund Data

| Unit               | 2016 \$2          | Membership Donation | 2017 \$2           | Membership Donation | 2018 \$2 | Membership Donation | TOTALS            |            |            |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| Antelope Valley    | \$94.00           | \$10.00             | Antelope Valley    | \$74.00             | \$200.00 | Antelope Valley     | \$78.00           | \$456.00   |            |
| Eastern Sierra     | \$60.00           |                     | Eastern Sierra     | \$52.00             |          | Eastern Sierra      | \$30.00           | \$142.00   |            |
| High Country       | \$90.00           |                     | High Country       | \$56.00             | \$15.00  | High Country        | \$58.00           | \$259.00   |            |
| High Sierra        | \$94.00           | \$130.00            | High Sierra        | \$84.00             |          | High Sierra         | \$82.00           | \$390.00   |            |
| Kern River Valley  | \$26.00           |                     | Kern River Valley  | \$48.00             |          | Kern River Valley   | \$30.00           | \$104.00   |            |
| Kern Sierra        | \$134.00          | \$50.00             | Kern Sierra        | \$86.00             | \$5.00   | Kern Sierra         | \$110.00          | \$20.00    | \$405.00   |
| Lake Mendocino     | \$120.00          | \$5.00              | Lake Mendocino     | \$86.00             | \$15.00  | Lake Mendocino      | \$88.00           | \$314.00   |            |
| Los Padres         | \$338.00          | \$315.00            | Los Padres         | \$246.00            | \$25.00  | Los Padres          | \$262.00          | \$1,186.00 |            |
| Mid Valley         | \$450.00          | \$200.00            | Mid Valley         | \$458.00            | \$100.00 | Mid Valley          | \$452.00          | \$105.00   | \$1,765.00 |
| Mother Lode        | \$238.00          | \$170.00            | Mother Lode        | \$254.00            | \$165.00 | Mother Lode         | \$252.00          | \$110.00   | \$1,189.00 |
| North Bay          | \$112.00          |                     | North Bay          | \$78.00             |          | North Bay           | \$126.00          | \$316.00   |            |
| Redshank Riders    | \$136.00          | \$25.00             | Pacific Crest      | \$24.00             |          | Pacific Crest       | \$20.00           | \$205.00   |            |
| Redwood            | \$204.00          | \$10.00             | Redshank Riders    | \$132.00            | \$35.00  | Redshank Riders     | \$134.00          | \$50.00    | \$565.00   |
| San Diego          | \$120.00          |                     | Redwood            | \$188.00            | \$10.00  | Redwood             | \$228.00          | \$35.00    | \$581.00   |
| San Geronimo Pass  | \$46.00           |                     | San Diego          | \$114.00            | \$90.00  | San Diego           | \$120.00          | \$50.00    | \$420.00   |
| San Joaquin Sierra | \$200.00          | \$100.00            | San Joaquin Sierra | \$200.00            | \$70.00  | San Joaquin Sierra  | \$142.00          | \$140.00   | \$852.00   |
| Santa Ana River    | \$84.00           | \$93.00             | Santa Ana River    | \$86.00             | \$20.00  | Santa Ana River     | \$98.00           |            | \$381.00   |
| Sequoia            | \$136.00          |                     | Sequoia            | \$124.00            |          | Sequoia             | \$104.00          |            | \$364.00   |
| Shasta Trinity     | \$164.00          |                     | Shasta Trinity     | \$162.00            |          | Shasta Trinity      | \$152.00          | \$135.00   | \$613.00   |
| Sierra Freepackers | \$74.00           |                     | Sierra Freepackers | \$74.00             |          | Sierra Freepackers  | \$90.00           | \$40.00    | \$278.00   |
| Sutter Buttes      | \$86.00           | \$155.00            | Sutter Buttes      | \$82.00             | \$100.00 | Sutter Buttes       | \$74.00           | \$100.00   | \$597.00   |
| Top of the State   | \$200.00          | \$260.00            | Top of the State   | \$166.00            | \$125.00 | Top of the State    | \$170.00          | \$35.00    | \$956.00   |
| <b>TOTALS</b>      | <b>\$3,206.00</b> |                     |                    | <b>\$2,874.00</b>   |          |                     | <b>\$2,900.00</b> |            |            |

# BCHC

## BCHC STRUCTURE

By Chip Herzig

At our recent Board of Director's (BOD) meeting it became apparent that most of our directors did not understand our BCHC structure, so here goes a shot at clearing up the confusion.

BCHC incorporated in California as Backcountry Horsemen of California under IRS rules designated in the laws as a 501C4. Yes, we spelled backcountry as all one word! A 501C4 is a non-profit organization of folks who share a common interest. To add a small modicum of confusion to this definition is we incorporated as a non-member organization. This is a pretty common way for non-profits to organize. It allows the Boards of Directors to lead the organization without having to go out to each member for the OK to take care of issues, etc. However, we do have members who are the purview of our units.

Each December we do a vote count of how many members are in each unit which defines how many directors the unit has on the Board. The BOD meets twice a year to address the issues of the organization. The Directors are named/elected by each unit and as they join the BOD meeting are identified as the voting member of this board. The BOD actually leads BCHC in all aspects of our annual dealings. The way the BOD works is through Policies.

Within our leadership structure resides our Executive Committee (Exec Comm.) These folks are the ones who deal with the daily business of BCHC reporting to the BOD what is going on. In addition, the Exec Comm develops policies that the BOD then says OK to which then becomes directions for all of our membership.

After several years of this type of organization, BCHC voted to incorporate further under the 501C3 setup from the IRS. C3's are charitable organizations which allow our members to deduct various expenses as a legitimate tax deduction for their efforts within BCHC. The major thing under the C3 side of our split personality organization is our Rendezvous.

The C3 leadership is essentially our BCHC Exec. Comm. which includes our President, Treasurer and our VPs of Education and Public Lands. These folks meet before each BOD meeting and bring their decisions/direction to the BOD meeting where the BOD OKs what they decided.

Each of our two BCHC structures has Bylaws which are living documents that guide and direct what we can and cannot do. These Bylaws are public documents that are submitted to the IRS upon our incorporations. All members are welcome to read/review these documents. They are on our website at [www.BCHCalifornia.org](http://www.BCHCalifornia.org).

**DIAMOND AND HITCH  
SAY HELLO!**



Diamond and Hitch are ready and willing to join the fun and help out at BCHC activities.

They can assist in helping BCHC youth learn a wide variety of subjects, such as LNT principals, packing skills, etc.

Look for them at the 2019 Rendezvous!

**Backcountry Horsemen of California  
RENDEZVOUS**

**The 2019 Rendezvous will be held on  
March 29-31, 2019 in Norco, CA**

# MISCELLANEOUS

## LARGE ANIMALS AND LIVESTOCK IN DISASTER



There are unique considerations for horses and other livestock during a disaster. Preparing ahead of time and acting quickly are the best ways to keep you and your animals—pets and livestock—out of danger. Protect your whole family when emergencies arise with the proper supplies, veterinary information, animal identification and an evacuation plan that has been practiced. Whether the threat is a hurricane, wild-fire or other disaster, lives may depend on being ready.

### Planning for disasters

- Assemble an evacuation kit (see below).
- Develop an evacuation plan for all of your animals and practice the plan.
- Keep written directions to your home near your telephone. This will help you and others explain to emergency responders exactly how to get to your home.
- Identify alternate sources of food and water. Because floodwaters are often contaminated with sewer waste and may also pose a risk of chemical contamination, animals should be prevented as much as possible from accessing and drinking them.
- Have well maintained backup generators and a source of fuel for use in food-animal production operations.
- Keep vehicles well maintained and full of gas.
- Keep emergency cash on hand. (Remember: ATMs may not work.)
- If evacuating is impossible, decide on the safest hous-

ing option for your animals, realizing that the situation is still life threatening.

- Assess the stability and safety of barns and other structures, promptly remove dead trees, and minimize debris in fields and the immediate environment.
- If you live in an area prone to wildfires, clear away brush and maintain a defensible space around structures.
- Keep a list of the species, number and locations of your animals near your evacuation supplies and note animals' favorite hiding spots. This will save precious rescue time.

### Equine identification

- microchip
- tattoo
- halter tag
- neck collars
- leg band
- brand
- mane clip
- luggage tag braided into tail or mane
- clipper-shaved information in the animal's hair
- livestock marking crayon, non-toxic, non-water-soluble spray paint, or non-water-soluble markers to write on the animal's side
- permanent marker to mark hooves

### Livestock identification

- neck chain



# MISCELLANEOUS CONT.

- ear notches
- leg band
- ear tag
- brand
- livestock marking crayon, non-toxic, non-water-soluble spray paint, or markers to write on the animal's side
- wattle notching
- ear tattoo
- back or tail tag

## Evacuating large animals

Equine and livestock evacuation can be challenging. Develop an evacuation plan in advance and make sure animals are familiar with being loaded onto a trailer. Locate and prearrange an evacuation site for your animals outside your immediate area.

Possible sites include:

- veterinary or land grant colleges
- racetracks
- show grounds
- pastures
- stables
- fairgrounds
- equestrian centers
- livestock corrals
- stockyards or auction facilities
- other boarding facilities

If you do not have enough trailers to quickly transport all of your animals to an evacuation site, contact neighbors, local haulers, farmers, producers or other transportation providers to establish a network of available and reliable resources that can provide transportation in the event of a disaster.

If evacuation of horses/livestock is impossible, relocate them to the safest place possible based on the type of imminent disaster and the environment, realizing that the situation could be life threatening. Make sure they have access to hay or another appropriate and safe food source, as well as clean water and the safest living area possible, including high ground above flood level. Do not rely on automatic watering systems, because power may be lost.

The decision to leave your horses/livestock in the field or in the barn should be based on the risks of injury resulting from the disaster and from the immediate environment during that disaster. Factors to consider include the stability of the barn, the risk of flooding and the amount of trees and debris in the fields. If time permits, secure or remove all outdoor objects that could turn into dangerous flying debris.

Reprinted from American Veterinarian Medical Association.

## Equine and livestock evacuation kit

- 7-10 day supply of feed, supplements, and water
- Bandanas (to use as blindfolds)
- Batteries (flashlight, radio)
- Blankets
- Copies of veterinary records and proof of ownership
- Cotton halter
- Duct tape
- Emergency contact list
- First aid kit (see item suggestions in the [Saving the Whole Family](#) brochure)
- Flashlight
- Fly spray
- Grooming brushes
- Heavy gloves (leather)
- Hoof knife
- Hoof nippers
- Hoof pick
- Hoof rasp
- Instructions
  - Diet: record the diet for your animals.
  - Medications: list each animal separately, and for each medication include the drug name, dose and frequency. Provide veterinary and pharmacy contact information for refills.
- Knife (sharp, all-purpose)
- Leg wraps and leg quilts
- Maps of local area and alternate evacuation routes in addition to GPS (in case of road closures)
- Non-nylon halters and leads (leather/cotton)
- Nose leads
- Paper towels
- Plastic trash cans with lids (can be used to store water)
- Portable livestock panels
- Radio (solar, hand cranked and/or battery operated)
- Rope or lariat
- Shovel
- Tarpaulins
- Trash bags
- Twitch
- Water buckets
- Whip/prods
- Wire cutters

# BCHC

# UNIT NEWS

## Amanda Stewart Retires

### Help With a Photo Tribute

By Bob Cooper

After 20 plus years, Amanda Stewart has decided to retire. She ran Stewart Horse Camp at Point Reyes National Seashore with dedication and firmness so equestrians could enjoy their adventure there.

Amanda's Great-Grandfather bought the ranch in the 1930s. Her Grandfather, Boyd Stewart, built Stewart Horse Camp in 1962 and he ran it until the late 1980s. Then Amanda's mother, Joanne, took over until she passed on the reins to Amanda.

All the horsemen who spent time at Stewart Horse Camp surely have fond memories of the four generations of Stewarts and as a tribute to her hard work as a concessionaire, the Marin Horse Council is putting together a photo album to give to her. Please send us your new or old pictures and stories about Stewart Horse Camp, the Stewarts and Point Reyes. Many individuals and groups have already responded, but more contributions are needed.

What we need:

- 1) If you and Amanda know each other, just a picture of you with your name.
- 2) If your group has camped at Stewart Horse Camp, a picture of your group.
- 3) Photos of the Stewart family, Stewart Horse Camp, or Point Reyes National Seashore.
- 4) Interesting stories about Stewart Horse Camp or the Stewart family, with or without pictures.

For details and examples:

<https://bobcooperhorse.weebly.com/photoalbumforamanda.html>

We have all heard so many wonderful stories from Amanda, now it is time to write down our stories about Point Reyes for her. [bobcooperhorse@gmail.com](mailto:bobcooperhorse@gmail.com)



## TOP OF THE STATE UNIT POKER RIDE

By Penny Wells

On October 20, 2018, the Top of the State Backcountry Horsemen met at Deer Mountain Snowmobile Park for an end of summer Poker and Lingo Ride. We had 24 people and 20 riders. We lucked out with a beautiful, warm autumn day. We also had a tack swap for all of those who wanted to rid themselves of all their extra tack. The ride was about two hours long, which was perfect for being able to have a potluck afterward when everyone came back.

For Lingo, Pam and I placed posters of animals on trees the day before the event. Each rider would receive a card with animals on it and mark off each animal they saw on a poster. One rider received one special animal and when they marked off all animals including the special animal, they won. The Lingo winner was Sandy Mason.

We also sold poker hands at the trailhead so even non-riders could participate. For poker we decided to award money to the high hand and the low hand. Barbara Matthews and Art Hanna were the poker winners.

We had a great potluck and were very pleased we could get one last ride in this fall.

### **BCHA Member Benefits & Discount**

BCHA member please take advantage of benefits and discount programs with the following providers:

Equisure, Inc. for Excess Personal Liability Insurance

AirMedCare Network, for medical transport by Air

John Deere, for discounts up to \$2500

Have Saddle will Travel - Discounts

To learn more about these offers go to:

<https://bcha.site-ym.com/page/Benefits>

# UNIT NEWS

## MOTHER LODE UNIT TRAINS WITH NEW EQUIPMENT

By Lucy Badenhoop

Mother Lode Unit (MLU) was especially fortunate in 2018 to receive two National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance grants for mileage reimbursement (one for wilderness packers and one for trail maintenance volunteers). Each grant also allowed the purchase of equipment. Jerry Heitzler (the MLU Trails Committee Co-Chair and Education Committee Chairman) spent extra time researching what equipment would increase the unit's capability to solve trail issues.

One recurring issue was large diameter logs (greater than 3-feet across) which present two problems: chain saw bar length and how to move the half-ton section after it is cut. Jerry consulted with several rigging experts and used their recommendations for new equipment.

The trail maintenance grant purchased a 32-inch chain saw. The wilderness grant purchased an array of rigging equipment for moving heavy objects (grip hoist, winch, cables, straps, pulleys, etc.). Both categories of equipment are needed to do the job.

Next, MLU assembled volunteers for the one-day field training on an actual trail obstacle with easy access near Pollock Pines, California:

- Clay Grub - experienced teacher of rigging operations for PCT & TRTA crews
- Jerry Heitzler and John Marshall – BCHC-MLU members with rigging experience
- Mike Kohlbaker and Steve Smith – BCHC-MLU certified sawyers
- Randy Hackbarth – BCHC-MLU trail scout and traffic controller
- Lucy Badenhoop – XP-CA Trail Representative and BCHC-MLU project manager

Everyone arrived about 8:30 a.m. for breakfast in the MLU field kitchen, followed by a short hike to the site. Work started after the safety meeting. The 48-inch log was blocking a one-mile section of the historic Pony Express Trail, just East of Pollock Pines, California. The trail was parallel to a county road and located in the road easement (county permission to work the site was obtained).

The log (estimated to weigh 6 tons) was about 40 feet long and 48 inches in diameter where it crossed the trail at a 60-degree angle. The single track trail was on a hillside that was about 45 degrees steep and that left the log suspended about a foot above the tread but otherwise resting firmly on the ground. About one-third of the log's length was below the trail and two-thirds was above the trail. There was a danger that cutting the log into pieces would result in one or more sections rolling downhill onto a county road with residential traffic.



Stabilizer strap lower third near road.



80% cut & roll strap.

# RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL INDIVIDUALS

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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.

### BENEFACTOR (\$100)

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Antelope Valley<br>Eastern Sierra | Doris and Tim Bartholomew<br>Bill Carter<br>Troy and Susie Patton<br>James B. and Judy L. Waggoner                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| High Sierra                       | Ruth Gerson<br>Nancy Hamill<br>Jacob Hamstra                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Kern Sierra                       | Brad Allen of Rosedale Farrier Supply<br>Robert L. Anderson<br>Boyce 'Buzz' R. and Joann F. Caffee<br>Mylon Filkins, DVM and Pat<br>Randy and Debbie Gafner<br>Larry and Pat Mumford                                                                                                                |
| Los Padres                        | Robin and Reid Cederlof<br>William Chaides and Nancy Kimmell<br>Eve Devine, Sean, Sarah and Jacob Devine<br>James McGarry<br>Russ Rantz<br>Kathleen L. Redden<br>Sarah Rivers                                                                                                                       |
| Mid Valley                        | Tony and Karyn Alamo<br>Jay and Elizabeth Barnes<br>Gary A. and Michelle L. Cain<br>Rien and Lieske Doornenbal<br>Carol Jo Hargreaves and Larry Schneider<br>Rian Hudson, Rylee Gouvea & Rebecca, Regen Hudson<br>John V. Marshall<br>Jennifer Marshall<br>MID VALLEY UNIT<br>Dan and Toni Peterson |
| Mother Lode<br>Redwood            | Action Coalition<br>Maris Hawkins<br>Darrel and Carole Polasek                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| San Diego                         | David Roy and Pamela Chevallier<br>Walt J. and Suzie Kirkwood<br>Sterling Wolfe                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| San Joaquin Sierra                | John and Jenise Cunningham                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

Sequoia

Shasta Trinity

Sutter Buttes

Top Of The State

Fred and Suzanne Gleason  
Larry Nishma, Knapp-Yosemite Trls Pk Sta  
Stephen and Jill Naylor  
Werner Ansorge and Jeanette Woods Ansorge  
Kathryn C. Bennetthill and John E. Bennett  
Steve Ladrigan  
Jamie Wilson, DVM  
Larry and Jody Young  
Lyle and Lauren Charter  
Joe R. Wilburn  
Corky Layne  
Ulla Park  
Rebecca Richman

### PATRON (\$250)

|                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| High Sierra<br>Los Padres<br>Mid Valley   | Richard and Dena Cochran<br>Otis Calef and Beth Brockman, DVM<br>Lloyd and Susan Erlandson<br>Dennis M. and Loretta Serpa<br>Timothy and Michaela Durbin<br>Kenneth and Allison Renck<br>Jim and Pat Holly |
| Mother Lode<br>Redshank Riders<br>Sequoia |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

### MT. WHITNEY (\$500)

|                                             |                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eastern Sierra<br>High Sierra<br>Mid Valley | Sarah C. Sheehan<br>Karl and Trish Pendegraft<br>Terri Arington<br>Christine Kaplan  |
| Redshank Riders<br>Shasta Trinity           | Ron Robertson - <i>In Remembrance of Korky Robertson</i><br>Dean and Laura Angelides |

### WANT TO START A NEW UNIT?

If there is no unit in your area and you are interested in starting one, contact BCHC Secretary Susie Patton for more information. [bludog46@gmail.com](mailto:bludog46@gmail.com)



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# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US!

These new members have joined BCHC between  
November 18, 2018 and March 2, 2019

### THANK YOU NEW MEMBERS

*We look forward to meeting you!!*

Kern Sierra  
Lake-Mendo  
Mid Valley

Charles Trueblood  
Elizabeth Harreschou  
Barry Dansie  
Kyle Draper  
Bethany Fowler  
Tara Gillians  
Olivia Rocha  
Karissa Rogers  
Ilene Stamp  
Mark Townsend  
Christine Walpole  
Jon R. Joscelyn  
Anna Baglione  
Renee Elliott

Mother Lode  
Redwood  
Santa Ana River

### MAIL YOUR BCHC MEMBERSHIPS TO:

**BCHC Membership**  
1280 State Rt. 208,  
Yerington, NV 89447

The deadline for submissions for the  
Spring 2019 EDITION  
of the Backcountry News is:

**April 15, 2019**

Submissions to: BCHC Editor  
[BCHCNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:BCHCNewsletter@gmail.com)

## 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](http://bchcalifornia.org)), Scroll down to the bottom of any page, press the DONATE button and help us in our many efforts. **THANK YOU!**

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# BCHC Units Around the State

## ANTELOPE VALLEY

PO Box 84  
Pearblossom, CA 93553  
www.bchc-avunit.org  
**Marcy Watton**  
(661) 878-1791  
HorsingRound@aol.com

## EASTERN SIERRA

PO Box 157  
Olancho, CA 93549  
**Cynthia McCarthy**  
(760) 873-4939  
cynthia\_mccarthy@swbell.net

## HIGH COUNTRY

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

## HIGH SIERRA

PO Box 33  
Exeter, CA 93221  
www.highsierraunit.org  
**Dan Baumgardner**  
(559) 334-7731  
danbdrafthorse@yahoo.com

## KERN RIVER VALLEY

PO Box 2179  
Lake Isabella, CA 93240  
**Steve Horst**  
(661) 867-2777  
horststephenc@yahoo.com

## KERN SIERRA

16347 Stephenie Rd  
Bakersfield, CA 93314-9669  
**Tammy Bozarth**  
(661) 322-2545  
spashiners@yahoo.com

## LAKE-MENDO

6980 Potter Valley Rd  
Ukiah, CA 95482  
**Lisa Deas**  
(831) 402-7482  
muledaze@yahoo.com

## LOS PADRES

606 S. Hart Dr.  
Santa Maria, CA 93454  
www.bchc-lpunit.org  
**Shirley Rasmussen**  
(805) 610-0934  
shirleyrasmussenreg@peoplepc.com

## MID VALLEY

PO Box 1709  
Modesto, CA 95353  
www.bchcmidvalley.org  
**Jim Westmoreland**  
(209) 815-3125  
jimwestmorelandsem@gmail.com

## MOTHER LODE

PO Box 702  
North Highlands, CA 95660  
**Randy Hackbarth**  
(530) 626-0571  
trlryder@pacbell.net

## NORTH BAY

PO Box 9435  
Santa Rosa Ca. 95405  
www.northbayunit.com  
**Thor Bodtker**  
(415) 328-4545  
thundert@hotmail.com

## PACIFIC CREST

PO Box 720684  
Pinon Hills, CA 92372  
**Jennifer Sponsler**  
(760) 868-1588  
jnjspon@aol.com

## REDSHANK RIDERS

PO Box 383  
Aguanga, CA 92536-0383  
www.redshankriders.com  
**Charlie Cheek**  
(951) 491-1679  
trailboss75@yahoo.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  
**Walt J. Kirkwood**  
(619) 445-3555  
walterjkirkwood@gmail.com

## SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA

PO Box 25693  
Fresno, CA 93729-5693  
www.bchcsjsu.org  
**Joe Kaminski**  
(559) 559-733-9170  
kaminski clan@gmail.com

## SANTA ANA RIVER

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

## SEQUOIA

PO Box 456  
Springville, CA 93265-0579  
www.bchc-sequoia.org  
**Gail Inman**  
(559) 539-2260  
president@bchc-sequoia.org

## SHASTA TRINITY

16900 C Rd  
Cottonwood, CA 96022  
www.bchcshastatrinity.org  
**Greg Mittelstadt**  
(707) 330-3314  
donar\_723@yahoo.com

## SIERRA FREEPACKERS

PO Box 64  
Oakhurst, CA 93644-0064  
www.sierrafreepackers.com  
**Cathy Miller**  
(559) 683-8099  
mlrmob10@gmail.com

## SUTTER BUTTES

P.O. Box 703  
Chico, CA 95927  
**LaRae L. Sizer**  
(530) 894-1285  
rae4travl@gmail.com

## TOP OF THE STATE

PO Box 461  
Etna, CA 96027-0461  
www.bchc-tos.com  
**Ed Matthews**  
(530) 842-5872  
hereinyreka@nctv.com



## Questions? Membership Matters

BCHC Membership Coordinators are  
Chip and Linda Herzig.

They will be happy to address your  
questions or concerns.

Chip and Linda may be reached Monday  
through Friday.

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

Email: [membership@bchcalifornia.org](mailto:membership@bchcalifornia.org)

Phone: (775) 463-3634

## Planning a Trip? Why not use:

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

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# BCHC Membership Application

**Backcountry Horsemen  
of California**



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

**MEMBERSHIP  
APPLICATION**

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

**New**  **Renewal**  
 **Change**

*(Indicate change)*

Antelope Valley  
 Eastern Sierra  
 High Country  
 High Sierra  
 Kern River Valley

Kern Sierra  
 Lake-Mendo  
 Los Padres  
 Mid Valley  
 Mother Lode

North Bay  
 Pacific Crest  
 Redshank Riders  
 Redwood  
 San Diego  
 San Joaquin Sierra

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

**DCTR (your Membership**

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

Street Address/P.O. Box

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

Email Address: (please print legibly)

Donation to BCHC Education Fund (tax deductible) \$

Total Enclosed: \$ Check No.

Parent Unit Membership Types (Check one)

Individual \$50  Family \$60  2 Year Individual \$90  2 Year Family \$110  3 Year Individual \$125  3 Year Family \$150

Young Adult (18-25 years old) \$15 - Benefactor \$100 - Patron \$250 - 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: \$15.00/Unit  
Unit Name (from above list)

Associate Membership for: \$15.00/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 is 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.

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 -

Individual Membership \$ 50.00  
 Family (Shared) Membership \$ 60.00  
 Young Adult (18-25 years old) \$ 15.00  
 2 Year Individual \$ 90.00  
 2 Year Family \$110.00  
 3 Year Individual \$125.00  
 3 Year Family \$150.00  
 Benefactor Membership \$100.00  
 Patron Membership \$250.00  
 Mt. Whitney Membership \$500.00

On that form, I also requested:  
Associate Memberships \$

My Total Remittance: \$

My Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_

**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 or (4) a valid email address



# UNIT NEWS

MLU Trains with new equipment, continued from page 19

There was also a companion log of 1-foot diameter about 2 feet away and chest high.

Fortunately, the site was heavily wooded, so suitable anchors for the rigging were available nearby. Two workers rigged two tree anchors on the lower third of the log to prevent it from rolling onto the county road after the cut. Two more workers limbed the companion log and removed a 10-foot section to gain access to the larger log. To reduce the diameter 3 or 4 inches, they chipped the bark off it on the two cut lines for a 4-foot section to be removed.

Once the stabilizing rigging was in place on the lower section, two cuts were made about 80 percent of the diameter at the planned opening. A third anchor was rigged around the section to be removed, thus keeping it from rolling onto the road below. This rigging was specially prepared to allow rolling the smaller piece uphill a few feet after the final cuts.

To everyone's relief, the only piece that moved after the finish cuts was the cutout that dropped a foot onto the trail tread. The specially rigged roll strap moved it uphill around the end of the lower log, then parked it off the trail tread. Some trimming of the main log on its protruding edges enlarged the opening for pack stock. The trail now has a slight S-shaped curve around the log ends, which serves as a choke point to slow mountain bikers.

The entire operation took the team of seven volunteers 49 work hours, 15 travel hours and 727 travel miles to open a 1-mile section of the historic Pony Express Trail. With this new capability successfully tested, MLU can tackle an expanding spectrum of trail obstacles to keep the unit's favorite trails open to the public



Parked Cutout



Roll cutout uphill.



Tree anchors uphill.