

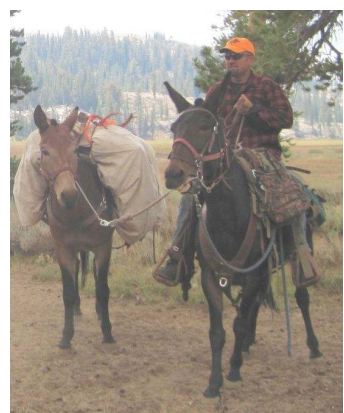
SIS-Q-TRAILS



Backcountry Horsemen of California

TOP OF THE STATE UNIT
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
JOE CROTEAU

Kathryn Matthews
Editor/Publisher



June 2011

Looks like we're gonna go from snow to 100 degrees in less than a month. That's just fine since the garden is now planted. It felt like a month where I had no set plans to accomplish specific tasks, but I was super busy dealing with JHAs, RAC grant proposals, keeping tabs on work parties, and of course my day job.

The Job Hazard Analyses (JHAs) have been somewhat a sore subject. We're required to comply with some sort of hazard analyses and emergency plan if we're going to do projects on Forest Service land. Our MOU with the Forest Service acknowledges this with reference to the Forest Service Safety Manual. I think for the most part the troubles occurred with the presentation and format for this year's JHAs by Forest Service Staff. Informing our members to comply with bulleted items that included staying at least 200 yards from bears/bees, and don't cross water over our heads was insulting to people who have spent any time in the backcountry. I'm fairly certain that the JHAs that were presented to us were developed by the PCTA, and then simply adopted by Forest Service Staff.

I don't think any of our members have a problem with being safe. We've asked folks to be safe, we go through our pre-ride orientations, and we've asked some folks that pose a safety problem to consider helping out elsewhere. However, the Forest Service considers the JHAs to be a "contract" that we need to sign. If we are in fact partners, then anything we sign should make sense.

In early June, Lorrie Bundy, Parliamentarian Bill Balfrey, and I met with Patty Grantham, Kerry Greene, and Dave Hays to express our concerns. By the end we were provided three options:

- 1) Move forward on our current process of signing the Volunteer Agreements and Cost Share Agreements, and jointly modify the JHAs to everyone's liking,
- 2) Opt out of the Volunteer Agreement, retain the Cost Share Agreement, and develop our own JHAs that need to comply with OSHA and the Safety Manual, or
- 3) Opt out of all agreements, and just don't do projects on Forest Service land.

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SIS-Q-TRAILS

A publication of the Backcountry Horsemen of California,
Top of the State Unit

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DISCLAIMER: Articles and advertisements that appear in SIS-Q-TRAILS do not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the BCHC, TOS Unit or its officers and members. Nor does publication of said articles and advertisements constitute an endorsement of views or of the goods or services offered therein that they may express. Accuracy of all material is the sole responsibility of the authors. BCHC TOS is not responsible for unsolicited material of any kind.

SUBMISSIONS AND DEADLINES: The Top of the State Unit welcomes new member contributions, club news, events, calendar dates, and items of interest that you wish to have submitted in the next issue of the newsletter. These need to be submitted by the 15th of the month and will be printed on space available basis. Edited and published 6 times a year.

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EDITOR'S NOTE : IT IS THE WISH OF OUR BOARD MEMBERS NOT TO PUBLISH THEIR ADDRESS.

PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE

This newsletter is a document of communication that disseminates information of the Top of the State Unit of BCHC covering schedules, information, philosophy and historical materials pertinent to the participants of the BackCountry of Northern California.

1. Perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
2. Assist the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resources.
3. Educate, encourage and solicit active participation in wise and sustaining use of the back country by horsemen and the general public.
4. Work to ensure that the public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
5. Foster and encourage the formation of new state backcountry horsemen organizations

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President's Message: June 2011

From Front Page

I think we should maintain option 1. Bill has condensed 11 pages of JHAs down to 2. Next step is to run them by Ellen Andrews, and through Dave Hayes to determine if they are compliant with the Forest Service Safety Manual. Stay tuned.

The RAC grant programs provide a spectrum of successes. The RACs love our organization and always recommend us for future funding. The Shasta-T Forest Service, which administers the Trinity and Shasta grants has some shortcomings. They seem to have a lot of staff turnover (except Steve Nasser) which causes delays. Our 2011 grants have not been finalized yet so we are currently out of Shasta funds, and the Trinity funds are waning. However, Steve Nasser will likely get us set up, and the Trinity RAC has already recommended an additional \$7k for 2011.

The good news our members are still working hard. Most of the work in Shasta County is already completed for 2011. Thanks to the Kleavers, the Kaufners, and Larry Sturman who couldn't wait to get out. The snow in the Trinities and Marbles is going to make for some slow going for the next few weeks. The Education Committee led by Lynda Beverlin and Penny Wells has been working hard. They're sponsoring a Trail Trial July 23 at Deer Mountain. Please contact them if you need more details. Our highway section is clean and Dale is still bugging Fish and Game to plant some fish. Our next regular board meeting is Wednesday, July 13 in Fort Jones at 7PM. Hope to see you there.



Fall Riding Adventure

Michael and Betsy Stapleton have been asked to lead a Group Ride to the Hart Mt. Antelope Refuge and the Steens Wilderness in south central Oregon. They are delighted to do so, but want everyone to know that they visited the Hart Mt. Antelope Refuge last year, but have never been to the Steens Wilderness.

They are proposing a trip leaving Monday, September 5th and returning Sunday, September 11th. If anyone wants a shorter trip they could leave on Thursday, September 8th, when the move is from Hart Mountain to the Steens. Or come with us on Monday, ride the Hart Mountain and leave on Thursday when we move to the Steens. The ride will take place in rough country and will be doing some off trail riding, and will also ride on trails that have not been pre-ridden.

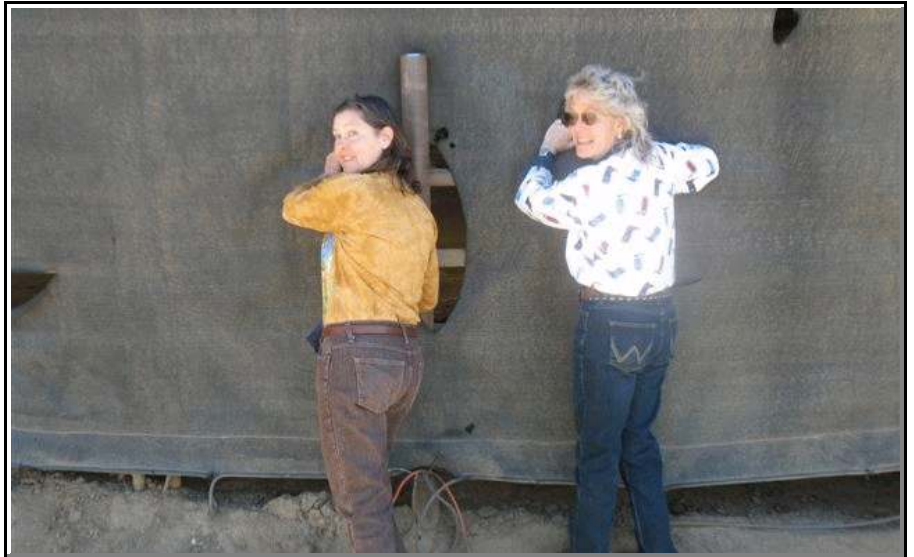
The group will be staying at an old cattle shipping station with no trees but a large meadow and meandering creek. There is no potable water and there is an outhouse.

It is recommended that only experienced riders with conditioned animals sign up for this ride.

More information will be coming through the Phone Tree.

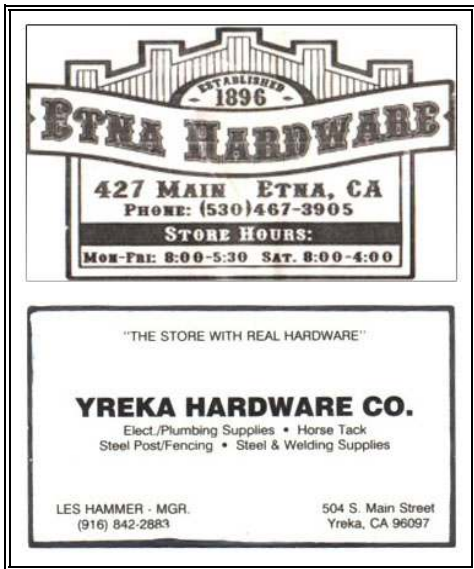


Jeff and Erin Fowle



Editor's Note: In the May/June Sis-Q-Trails newsletter, Linda Ellison took a photo of two ladies at the Rendevous in Red Bluff taking a peek of all the happenings. I thought maybe next time they'll Pay to get in. But my error, it turned out to be our very own members Penny Wells-Thomas (L) and Pam Boughton (R) checking out their competition at the Rendevous Trail Trials.

Speaking of Trail Trials . . . The Education Committee is planning another Trail Trials. Watch for the poster and entry forms.

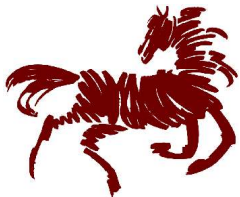


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PHONE: (530)467-3905
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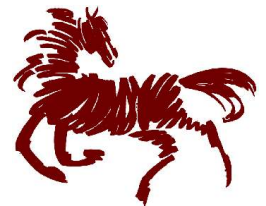
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Deer Mountain Snowmobile Park
Klamath National Forest
Hwy 97, California
Saturday, July 23, 2011



Competitive Trail Trials - Judged. It will be open to everyone, and there will be prizes for first, second, and third place winners. One of the prizes will be Twenty Bales of Grass Hay donated by the Boughton Ranch. The cost is \$20 for BCHC Members and \$25 Non-members

Schooling Ride - Judged. For riders and horses that want to get their feet wet. The cost is \$15 for BCHC Members and \$20 Non-members.

Jingo Ride - A fun ride with no obstacles and no judging. The cost is \$5 per Jingo card or 3 for \$12. The winner received ½ the Jingo pot.

There will be a BBQ /potluck following the Trail Trials. More information will follow . . .

Mother's Day Ride Military Pass Sunday, May 8th



Eighteen riders enjoyed one of the few nice days in May at Military Pass. The loop ride was nestled at the foot of Whaleback and Mount Shasta. No dust and only 3 or 4 snow flakes.

After the ride, the riders retired back to the Kleavers for a yummy Tri- Tip dinner with all the trimming, cup-cakes and ice cream and a lot of tall tales.....



Photos by Pat Snider

Written by Mary Kleaver



Photo by John Lyons

Cargo / Storage Trailer

During the February meeting, it was agreed to purchase a cargo trailer for the storage of supplies that were in John and Gail Lyon's storage shed. The trailer is parked on the Lyon's property.

The decals that were designed for the trailer have now been applied and looking good. Thank you John and Gail for the use of your storage shed all these years, and also for land space to park our new trailer.



18th Annual Siskiyou County Agriculture Awareness Day

The Annual Siskiyou County Ag Awareness Day was scheduled on Thursday, May 19, 2011 and all 4th Graders from Siskiyou County Schools attended the event.

Mike and Lynne Bryan demonstrated the art of packing, while Dan and Joan Trabucco demonstrated the concept of “Leave No Trace Behind” and handed out 350 Gentle Use Pamphlets.

This station was one of twenty-seven stations that the students were able to rotate through. The event was well received by all including the kids, parents, and teachers.

Lynda Beverlin and Melanie Fowle
Co-Coordinator of the Annual SC Ag Awareness Day
for 4th grade students.





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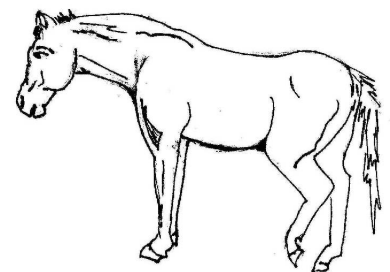
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submitted by Kathryn Matthews

SECOND HIGHWAY CLEAN UP JUNE 11, 2011

by Lee Carbah

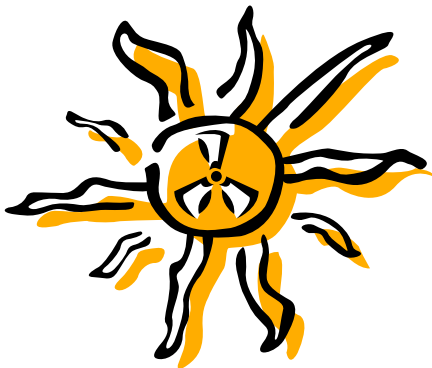


Volunteers who participated in the second highway clean-up were John and Gail Lyons, Patti Hickock, Linda Beverlin, Fred Miles, and myself. It took six hours to complete the cleanup with seventy-three drink bottles collected along with three trash bags. Thanks to all volunteers that participated in our second highway clean up of 2011. The club really appreciates your time and effort. September will be the third and last clean up of the year and if any of you wish to join us for that one, please call me (530) 598-6815 for more details and the exact time and date. I look forward to working with different member volunteers whenever possible. Thanks, Lee Carbah

Journey on the PCT

On Friday, June 10th the Unit presented Janet Zalewski's 2010 Journey on the Pacific Crest Trail. Janet's talk and slide show was well received. Janet brought all of the equipment that was needed for the five month trip. The audience asked many questions and later were treated to refreshments. Thank you to all who donated the variety of goodies. By Gail Lyons

SUNSHINE



As you're reading the newsletter, I'm sure you've taken a great notice of all the committees that the Top of the State has listed on page 2. But just in case you haven't studied that page or have not received a card from Sherry Glendenning you may not know what the Sunshine Committee does. Sherry sends out cards to members letting them know "we care" when they're going through a rough patch in their life. It could be any number of life's hard knocks (health, family, or even the loss of a beloved pet) that we need to let them know they are not going through it alone. There are times when Sherry doesn't get word that a member is in need. So contact Sherry at (530) 468-5503 or sherhorse@sisqtel.net so she can get a card out as soon as possible.

BCH
GETAWAY

BCHC NOW EARNS 60% OF COMMISSIONS!
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You can order your flowers here, too! Great deals on family getaways

Backcountry Horsemen of California, Top of the State Unit

Meeting Minutes from June 8, 2011

Erin Fowle, 1 Star Parelli Junior Instructor, spoke on "Foundation Before Specialization", introducing some of the principles of Parelli's approach to training

President Joe Croteau called the Directors Meeting to order at 8:00 PM. A quorum was not met.

Announcements

- The next highway cleanup is scheduled for this Saturday, June 11, 2011. Contact Lee Carbah for details.
- There will be a meeting Friday with the USFS about the JH Ranch permit. Contact Mike Stapleton.
- John Lyons reports that Pat Snider wants Top of the State to take over the Rendezvous raffles for 2012.

Committee Reports


- Education: Linda is collecting volunteer hours and mileages, no new form at this time although she may develop one if needed; discussion of why volunteer efforts are documented and how they are used; Trail Trial for Deer Mountain on July 23 – one ton of hay has been donated as the top prize; Ag Awareness Day was attended by about 350 fourth graders and received Gentle Use pamphlets from our representatives.
- Group Rides:
 - o June 25 from Donna and Jerry Bacigalupi's ranch on the east side of Shasta Valley, riding either up on Goosenest from the west or on Steamboat Mountain, on the north side of Little Shasta River
 - o September 5 - ? (tentative dates) at Hart Mountain Refuge and/or Steens Mountain in Oregon; weed free feed required and no potable water at Hart Mountain campsite; more details to come; contact Mike Stapleton
- Fish Plants: brief review of the EIR and required studies; no new information on this year's plants
- Work Parties:
 - o Carter Meadows June work party postponed due to snow; will run concurrently with July campout; people can work or not as they choose
 - o John is implementing a mentoring program for people new to trail maintenance. He will use the Etna-Mill Creek trail
 - o New RAC grant for the Shasta side has not been signed; reserve funds in the bank but not available for use; work is being done any way (\$3500+ so far) and hoping for release of the reserves to cover it

Old business: TOS Trailer Logo will cost \$45 more than approved because electronics needed modification to apply the logo; proceeding with work and will request the additional funds next month

New and Unfinished Business

- Update on JHAs: Joe reviewed what occurred at our last meeting and briefed us on the follow up meeting he, Bill Balfrey, and Lorrie Bundy had with USFS representatives;
 - o the Backcountry Horsemen of America Memorandum of Understanding with the Forest Service agrees to use of JHAs (Job Hazard Analysis).
 - o Joe boiled down the issue to three alternatives:
 1. everyone working on USFS projects must sign the volunteer agreement and JHAs (as rewritten with our cooperation - Bill has begun work on that);
 2. we can opt out of the volunteer agreement, create our own version of JHAs and take full responsibility with OSHA for safety of our workers;
 3. opt out of both the volunteer agreement and JHAs and do no trail maintenance work on USFS.
 - o Joe believes we should pursue option 1.
- "Journey on the PCT" scheduled for Friday, June 10 at the Ft. Jones Community Center/City Hall
- Shasta RAC brought up the idea of placing signs at one or more trailheads near the Shasta County line recognizing contributors to PCT maintenance.

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 13 at 7:00 PM at the Fort Jones Community Center; dinner at Lalo's at 6PM
Adjourned at 9:15

- NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION **Backcountry Horsemen of California**
- RENEWAL APPLICATION 
- CHANGE - () PARENT UNIT () ADDRESS/PHONE/EMAIL () MEMBERSHIP TYPE

DCTR (YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER) _____

**NEW MEMBERS WILL BE ASSIGNED NUMBER BY MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

PARENT Unit Affiliation: (Select and **CIRCLE ONE** Unit as your Primary Unit Affiliation)

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Antelope Valley | Mid Valley | San Joaquin Sierra |
| Eastern Sierra | Mother Lode | Santa Ana River |
| High Country | North Bay | Sequoia |
| High Sierra | Ohlone Riders | Shasta Trinity |
| Kern River Valley | Redshank Riders | Sierra Freepackers |
| Kern Sierra | Redwood | Sutter Buttes |
| Lake-Mendo | San Diego | Top of the State |
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ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ CHECK # _____ DATE SUBMITTED: _____

BUSINESS NAME –DONATIONS ONLY:

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Individual \$40.00* Family \$50.00* Benefactor \$100.00 Patron \$250.00 Mt Whitney \$500.00

*=BCHC shares portion of dues with Backcountry Horsemen of America

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS: AN ADDITIONAL \$15.00 PER UNIT IS ADDED TO YOUR PARENT UNIT DUES.
 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP 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))

Please write additional choices on back

Please clip form along dashed line – KEEP BELOW INFORMATION 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, each sharing 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.

- You may sign-up for as many Associate Memberships as you like.
- Associate Memberships may also be initiated at any time during the term of your Parent Membership.
- Associate Memberships must expire concurrently with the Parent Membership, and are renewable only at the time of renewal of the Parent Membership.

Complete information regarding BCHC Membership is available on the MEMBERSHIP page at: <http://www.bchcalifornia.org>

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

I SUBMITTED AN Application Form for:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership | \$ 40.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family (Shared) Membership | \$ 50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor Membership | \$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron Membership | \$250.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mt Whitney Membership | \$500.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donation – Packer | \$10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mule Skinner | \$25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> You're the Greatest! | \$50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate Membership | \$ _____ |
| Total Remittance | \$ _____ |
| Check Number _____ | |
| Date Mailed _____ | |

Questions: Contact membership@bchcalifornia.org

FIELD(FName) FIELD(LName) FIELD)
Partner)
FIELD(Address)
FIELD(City) FIELD(St) FIELD(Zip)
FIELD(Zip))

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monthly Meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the month

January, March, May, July, September, and November are held in Fort Jones at the Fort Jones Community Center

February, April, June, ~~August~~, October, and December are held in Yreka at the CalFire Office.

July Events:

- Thursday, July 7 - Sunday, July 10th - Carter Meadows Campout (Snow permitting)
- Wednesday, July 13 - Regular Board Meeting, Fort Jones CA 7 pm
- Saturday, July 23rd - Trail Trials at Deer Mountain Snowmobile Park 8 am
- Thursday, July 28-Sunday, July 31st - State Executive Board Meeting Sequoia National Forest - Golden Trout Wilderness - Gray Meadow

August Events:

- Wednesday, August 10-Sunday, August 14 - Siskiyou Golden Fair
- No monthly meeting is scheduled for this month

September Events:

- Monday, September 5-Sunday, September 11th - Hart Mt. Antelope Refuge and Steens Wilderness Ride