

SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA Hoof Prints

MERRY CHRISTMAS



December 2019

Issue 21

San Joaquin Sierra Unit, BCHC
PO Box 25693
Fresno, CA 93729-5693

Email: membership@bhcocalifornia.org (membership email only)
On the WEB: www.bhcsjsu.org (SJS Unit) or
www.bhcocalifornia.org (State)

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN



OF CALIFORNIA

Concerned Men and Women Dedicated to Gentle Use of California Trails and Backcountry

Presidents Message



With the cooler temperatures comes the holiday season. I hope your Thanksgiving and Christmas are all you would like them to be. If you haven't made plans please join us for a great Christmas dinner and fantastic music. Don't miss this chance to hear John Pemberton. As

always our dinner is open to all, you do not have to be a member to attend so invite your friends.

Carol and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and very happy New Year.

Remember to stay in the saddle, the ground is hard,

Joe Kaminski
President

San Joaquin River Gorge Work Day Schedule

Work Day Scheduled for the San Joaquin River Gorge Saturday, December 7th, weather permitting, be in the saddle 10:30. Bring loppers, gloves, and long sleeve attire. Dogs are included.

POSTPONED TBD
RSVP (Cara Peterson 559) 901-5364.

THE SHAVER LAKE, LAKESHORE TRAIL RECON

The Shaver Lake, Lakeshore Trail Recon began June 23rd, 2019. Marcee Hansen and Karen Daughrity headed out on their horses, accompanied by Marcee's dogs Drake and Sally, starting at the Perimeter Trailhead, they continued to the Lakeshore Trail. As they approached the Manzanita Creek Bridge, they scoped out a new route for horses to walk right through the creek and so bypass the nice wood pedestrian bridge at Manzanita Creek. Then they kept riding to Azalea Creek, which also had a bridge not safe for horses. They found that creating a bypass trail there would require a great deal of work, still leaving a difficult trail scenario, not suitable for pleasure riders. Their reports were given to Ruth Cramer, who is in contact with Chuck Ervin, the So Cal Edison Forrester at Shaver Lake. Because of Ruth's club position to oversee the horse corrals on Dinky Creek Rd., she also has ties with the Shaver Lake Trail Volunteers, who recruit under Chuck's authority. On August 30th, 2019, Ruth introduced Chuck to Marcee and Karen. Marcee brought an extra horse for Chuck and the three of them drove passed Rd. 3 behind the Lake, and on around to the Edison substation. Drake and Sally were also along for the adventure. They saddled up and then rode to the Azalea Creek Bridge. Chuck agreed that a bypass would not be satisfactory, and that the bridge would need re-decking to accommodate horses. Moving on and reaching the Manzanita Creek Bridge, Chuck agreed with Marcee and Karen's reroute proposal. Southern Cal Edison ECO - Volunteers, from Los Angeles, came up and re-decked the bridge at Azalea Creek! October 19th, 2019 BCHC Volunteers, Marcee Hansen, Karen Daughrity, Raean



James, Cara Peterson, Tami and Richard Telles, teamed up with the Shaver Lake Trail Volunteers. We all met with Chuck at Camp Edison and then drove to Fish Camp, and from there drove to Lakeshore Trailhead, crossing a bridge that is locked and is only for Edison Employees. Marcee's crew rode horses from the last landing. The Lakeshore Trail begins where the Stevenson Cove dirt road dead ends. Manzanita Creek is a short walk from there. They were able to clear the bypass in rewarding time. Afterwards, Chuck provided snacks for everyone. Another work party is scheduled for the spring of 2020, to add railings to the Azalea





San Joaquin Sierra Unit

Board Meeting Oct.23, 2019

Call to order: 6:30

Flag salute

Roll Taken: President: Joe Kaminski, Vice President: Ruth Cramer, Secretary: Carol Kaminski, Treasurer: Gary VanSickle
Directors: Sue Van Sickle, Jim Knabke, Steve Naylon, Jim Laber, Debbie McDougald, Muriel Holland

Past President: Duane Peverill

Minutes review and approved: 1st Duane, 2nd. Debbie

Correspondence: Waste Management bill, Donation from Shaver Lake

Committee reports:

Education: State Board encourages us to use Educational funds. Debbie suggests signboard kiosk at Shaver Lake camp. Marcee suggests reaching out to groups(scouting, 4-H) for trail project. Money could be used for public days. Insurance changes for youth/family. Need to purchase own memberships. Need parental waiver to be signed. Ruth to clarify with Tami. Requirement for background check is for state president or if BCHC totally responsible for event then background check is necessary.

Membership: State has emphasis on new members.

Newsletter: Articles due Nov.20.

Public lands: E-bikes---not going into wilderness. Can be used in BLM and National Forest. Proposing to eliminate buffer zone. Don't want bikes to be eased into Wilderness. PCT is under pressure to open up to specialized group's events. Wilderness doesn't allow competitive events per the Wilderness Act. Prop.68 recreational funds to be used for new trails.

Sunshine: Card sent to Bethany Bush-Smith.

Shaver Lake: Great work party. Developed horse crossing at Azalea creek. Bridge has been redecked. BCHC will put up rails. SCE will provide materials. Jim D. and Ruth to recon. Perimeter Trail now open. Trail still needs work. Camp to close Oct.26. Need to write letter to ask for money next year.

OLD BUSINESS. 1. Big Meadows- Kyle still checking into corp. sponsors. Ruth to work on sponsor agreement letter. Waste Management bill is in.

2. Stamey- Tickets available. See Duane. Dessert is taken care of.

3. Election results- Officers the same. Directors: Steve Naylon, Doug Laber, Paige Stambach and Jim Laber.

4. Christmas Dinner- Flyer to go out on Web and newsletter. Need to check on deposit for entertainer. Table decorations- check with Paige. Look into using Pemberton's sound system. Maybe raffle a pack trip. Joe and I will discuss for next meeting. Gary has 2 tickets for Clovis bull riding event. Alan is on for the food.

5. Shaver Lake work party is on for Sat. Ruth and Muriel to provide food and coffee.

NEW BUSINESS: 1. Julia Heller requests reimbursement for mileage. Ruth 1st, Sue 2nd. passed. Request funds from education fund.

2. Rendezvous 2021 meeting- SJSU will be responsible for dinners on Friday and Saturday nights. Could possibly contact local indian tribes to participate in Rendezvous.

Calendar review: Next meeting Nov. 5, 2019

Adjorn: 7:56 Sue 1st, Jim K. 2nd

2019-20 Calendar

Board Meetings are on the 1st Wednesday of the month. All members are welcome to attend. Board meetings start at 6:30 pm at the Clovis Elks Lodge, 535 Woodworth Ave. (Bullard & Woodworth).

Calendar & Ride schedule is on-going, and new events and rides will be published when confirmed. Note: Dates and events are subject to change or cancellation; calling the contact person is recommended or checking www.bchcsjsu.org

2019

- August 2-4 Diana Sorensen Memorial Tamarack Camp Out/Ride Joe Kaminski 559 733-9170
- August 7 Board Meeting
- August Cancelled General Meeting
- Sept 25 Board Meeting
- Sept 7 Big Meadow Ride (members only) In saddle 10:00 No Host
Joe Kaminski 559 733-9170
- Sept 12-15 Chamberlain Camp work party and beginning pack trip. Joe Kaminski 559 733-9170
- Oct 5 Eagle Point Ride Shaver Lake (members Only)
Cara 559-901-5364. carasblueprint@sbcglobal.net
- Oct 10-14 CCMA Poker Ride/Camp out MDO (Non Unit)
- Oct 16 Elections/General Meeting Fredi Chrismans Info to follow
- Oct 23 Board Meeting
- Nov 5 Board Meeting
- Nov 27 Board Meeting
- Dec 14 Christmas Dinner
- Dec 3 Board Meeting

Work Parties TBA

2020

- Jan 18, 2020 Ted Fischer Memorial Dave Stamey Dessert Concert.

Is there any activity that you would like to sponsor? We are always looking to improve the club and making it fun for all members. Please submit your ideas, wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net. You may call 559-908-3138 and I will get back to you.

Joe Kaminski
President

Remember to check for any Unit updates at our Web Site:
www.bchcsjsu.org for the San Joaquin/Sierra Unit,
www.bchcalifornia.org for the State Web Site

The purpose of this publication is to keep its members informed on important issues that affect all horsemen and to inform the membership on up-coming events within the unit. The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the editor & authors and not necessarily shared by BCHC.

5th Wheel for Sale

Jere and Carol Bartz are selling a 5th Wheel trailer.
Call 559 924-8989 and leave message. \$6500.00

MOUNTAIN MAN BREAKFAST

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 pounds sausage
- 2 pounds frozen hash brown potatoes
- 8 eggs, beaten with 1/4 cup water
- 2 cups cheese, grated

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. In a 12 Inch Camp Dutch Oven over a full bed of hot coals, fry and crumble sausage.
2. Remove cooked sausage and drain on paper towels.
3. Using the sausage drippings in the pan, brown potatoes and spread them evenly in bottom of Dutch oven.
4. Place cooked sausage over potatoes. Pour eggs over sausage layer. Sprinkle top with cheese.
5. Cook with 8 coals underneath Dutch oven and 16 on top for 20 to 25 minutes, until eggs are cooked.



Ted Fischer Memorial DAVE STAMEY CONCERT



Tickets on
Sale Now!
\$30

Jan. 18th, 2020

Doors Open 6:45
Concert Starts 7:30

Clovis Elks Lodge

Contact:
William Duane Peverill
by phone or email
559 908-3138
wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net



The Lighter Side

~ FUN QUOTES ~

- "When you give a personal lesson in meanness to a critter or to a person, don't be surprised if they learn their lesson." - John Wayne
- "Talk low, talk slow, and don't say too much." Reportedly, this quote was an acting tip from John Wayne to fellow actor Michael Caine.
- "Courage is being scared to death - and saddling up anyway." - Ronald Reagan
- "I've often said there's nothing better for the inside of a man than the outside of a horse." (which he got from Winston Churchill)

We Love To Make You Look Good!

IDEA!
PRINTING & GRAPHICS INC.

(559) 733-4149

Fax: (559) 636-3690

orders@visaliaidea.com • www.visaliaidea.com

1921 E. Main Street • Visalia, CA 93292

Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm

*Contributing to your success,
one impression at a time!*



FOR SALE

Saddle made by Al Gould.
Southwestern tooling. 15" seat,
Breast collar included, used but
in great condition. Email me for
any questions or pictures,
linda.fitzgeraldcbs@gmail.com.

Asking 2,150.00.

Call (559) 289-8322

www.bchcsjsu.org

Make sure you check out our website for updates on the Home page, Calendar page, and Newsletters. We also have a Photos page of our latest activities.

If you have any photos send them to Duane at wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net

www.bchcsjsu.org

Advertising Rates

Classified Ads

\$.10/word with a 20 word minimum (\$2.00),
\$.50 a line after that.

Display Ad Rate per issue

Business Card Size, \$8.00,	1/2 page, \$35.00,
1/4 page, \$20.00,	Full Page, \$50.00

Prices are subject to change without notice. All prices are for one month, due the 10th of the month. Editor reserves the right to refuse inappropriate ads.

All paid Ads include an E-mail Blast to all members with current emails

Attention

Your SJS Unit Board of Directors would like to invite any of our members to attend the monthly Board meetings or General meetings. It is important all directors have the same opportunity to hear the information, concerns or suggestions you wish to share. We are volunteers doing our best to keep our Unit informed and working smoothly. Refer to the newsletter for the information regarding times and location of upcoming meetings.

Respectfully,
Joe Kaminski



Your Full Service Realtor
Jessica Gabrielson
Realtor, GRI, SRES, SFR, ASP
DRE#01338726

559.905.7724
Office 559.321.6040
Fax 559.321.6044
jgabrielson@guarantee.com

180 W. Bullard Ave.
Clovis, CA 93612



"I don't horse around when it comes to selling your porperty"

"Travel Advantage"

Dear BCHC Members

Check out the latest edition of "Travel Advantage", @ www.ytbtravel.com/bchc a travel newsletter full of terrific deals from YTB, our BCHC travel partner. The newsletter is chock full of great ideas for anyone's next getaway! You can download an icon to your computer desktop for instant connection to the BCHC Getaway website.

Please forward "Travel Advantage" newsletter to your friends and family and other BCHC supporters. The more we get the word out, the more people will use the BCHC Getaway travel site to take advantage of great rates on hotels, flights, rental cars and other travel-related items, the more BCHC will earn for our Treasury!!

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the travel site, how it works or what BCHC earns by participating in this great opportunity. Thank you for supporting and promoting BCHC Getaway!!

C.J. Hargreaves
BCHC Editor/Travel Site Coordinator
cjohargreaves@verizon.net

BCHCALIFORNIA STATE BOARD MEETING

OCTOBER 12, 2019

By Ruth Cramer

Have you visited the new website for BCHCalifornia yet? A new front site has been added, where non-members can learn more about our organization without being flooded with information. All you, as a member, need to do to view the regular website and see the information you're used to, is click on the Member Site tab (see below). This will open up a new window with the website you're all familiar with.



Original Site Updates:

The plan is to add more policies, tutorials, guidelines, and general information on how to run things in the units. For example, best practices checklists are being created for various activities and events, which will be a big help when you are thinking about organizing an event. Updating should begin very soon.

Online Calendars:

Google Calendar is the program used to add events to the online statewideMrg calendar. Our unit currently uses Google Calendar and is listed on the website.

Facebook:

The State Facebook page gets a lot of interaction. Local units are invited to post pictures of their events so they can be shared with our fans.

2018 OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

President

Joe Kaminski, 559.909 0505
kaminskiclan@gmail.com

Vice President

Ruth Cramer, 559 417 3878
racramer@outlook.com

Secretary

Carol Kaminski, 559-733-9170
kaminskiclan@gmail.com

Treasurer

Gary Van Sickle, 559-288-0301
gwvansickle@outlook.com

DIRECTORS

Term Expires at end of year:

Muriel Holland, 559 855 4149
muriel@netptc.net
2020

Jim Knabke, 559-299-3254
jjknabke@comcast.net
2020

Susan Van Sickle 559-779-4105
gwvansickle@gmail.com
2020

Debbie McDougald, 559 905 268
ladypacker@netptc.net
2019

Steve Naylon, 559 284-7478
scnaylom@hotmail.com
2019

Jim Laber, 559-250-7906
jimlaber218@gmail.com
2019

Paige Stambach, 559-909-3930
paigestambach@gmail.com
2021

Rick Peeren, 559-908-0608
rick.peeren@sbcglobal.net
2021

COORDINATORS

Membership/Mailing Coordinator

Jan Mikkelson, 559-289-4911
jessecowboy@comcast.net

Public Lands Liaison

Joe Kaminski, 559-733-9170
kaminskiclan@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Jim Laber, 559-250-7906
jim@visaliaidea.com

Education Coordinator

Muriel Holland, 559-855-4149
muriel@netptc.net

Sunshine

Pat Peverill, 559-824-1119
ppeverill@sebastiancorp.net

Shaver Lake Camp Host

Ruth Cramer, 559-417-3878
racramer@outlook.com

Web Wrangler

Duane Peverill, 559-908-3138
wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net

Facebook

Paige Stambach, 559-909-3930
paigestambach@gmail.com

Big Meadows Horse Camp

Jim Knabke, 559-299-3254
jjknabke@comcast.net

ADVISORS

Past President

William Duane Peverill
559-908-3138
wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA UNIT STATE BOARD MEETING, OCTOBER, 2019

By Ruth Cramer

When the leadership of an organization wants to increase membership, support, and participation by members, what should they do?

Your State Board has considered this question and, as a result, they have developed a draft set of Proposed Strategic Priority Objectives that will be implemented throughout the state. The draft states that "Our overall strategy is to make it easier for those in leadership positions for statewide and local committees, programs and events to carry out their volunteer work by making available to them outlines and checklists of proven best practices." These specific best practices will be documented, and made available to all members on the state website. (see the article on the new state website).

There are seven key areas prioritized by the board:

- Youth program development
- New member recruitment and retention
- Enabling trail maintenance and trail support projects
- BCHC services available to local units
- Program best practices (provided by units)
- Website and social media
- Rendezvous

Planning teams have considered the key components of success in these areas, and at the State Board meeting directors from each unit contributed their ideas for meeting these objectives. Over the next year, we can expect to hear much more about the development and implementation of this strategic plan. I encourage members to follow this closely, as your input will be essential for the success of the effort.

Hi Christmas Revelers,

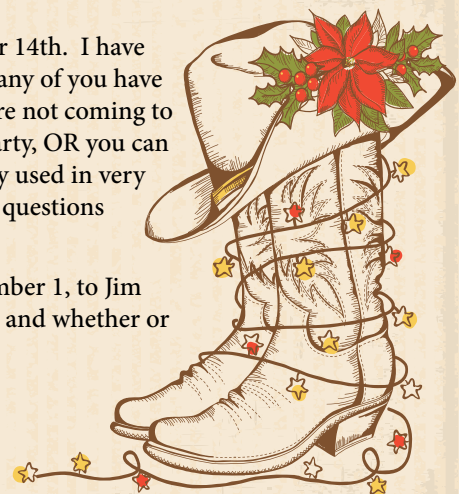
The San Joaquin-Sierra Unit Christmas party is fast approaching on December 14th. I have again volunteered to handle the silent auction and raffle items for the unit. If any of you have items you would like to donate, you can arrange a pick up or meet me if you are not coming to the party, you can drop them off at 9:00 am at the Clovis Elks the day of the party, OR you can bring them the night of the party. New items are greatly appreciated, or, gently used in very good condition, depending on the item. You can email me or call, if you have questions regarding your donation.

We look forward to seeing you and don't forget to R.S.V.P. if you can by December 1, to Jim Dixon, P.O. Box 319 Shaver Lake, CA 93664 with how many will be attending, and whether or not you want chicken or Tri Tip.

You can mail in your check of \$25.00 each and pre-pay or, pay at the door.

You can also email Jim at jddixon@netptc.net.

Jan Mikkelson
Membership Coordinator



BCHCSJSU SHIRTS

On the trails we work and ride we share the trail with others, that at times have trouble seeing us because of shadows and various modes of transportation used, especially in non wilderness designated areas.

For that reason your unit board of directors has made this shirt available for safety on trail rides and work parties as well as a way to promote our unit and its activities.

Order you BCHCSJSU Trail Work/Riding Shirt

To order call Gary Van Sickle with size and quantity.

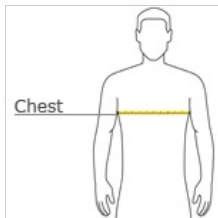
_____ X \$14.65 each _____
(Qty)

Make checks payable to BCHCSJUS and send to:

Attn: Gary Van Sickle
BCHCSJSU
P.O. Box 25693
Fresno, CA 93729-5693



HOW TO MEASURE



CHEST
Measure under the arm and around the fullest part of the chest with arms down, keeping tape horizontal.

SIZE CHART

	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
Chest	34-36	38-40	42-44	46-48	50-52	54-56	58-60	62-64

STARLIGHT RANCH RIDE

By Jim Laber

As many of you know we have a favorite winter riding location in the desert to the south east of Tehachapi near Rosamond, CA where the aqueduct makes it way to Los Angeles from Owens Valley. We went out Nov 8th-the 11th and enjoyed warm temperatures with a light breeze the entire weekend. On Saturday morning we decided on trying to find where the PCT takes off through the desert floor and winds it way up in over the hills and mountains toward Cameron Creek and Willow Springs Road. With GPS in hand we traveled North West of the ranch for about 4 miles. We had two starts as we had our pack horse with us and had tacked her up with new gear and plastic panier boxes, we had recently purchased just to see how it all fit and rides. Well the empty boxes were acting as bass drums before we got too far out that was causing our small herd to balk at everything. We returned, got rid of the boxes, promised not to do that again and set out for a second time. There are a lot of new windmills in the area which added concerns for our equine friends with the whirring of blades and some of the towers had beeping sounds coming from them. And of course, in the middle of the day we had moving shadows rolling across our path from the very large wind farm blades. All in all they did very well with an occasional stop by them to gain assurance from us that it was ok to proceed. We did find the sign for the PCT at about 4.5 miles out but it was not clear which way the trail went from there. I can imagine that those that do the desert portion of the trail muddle through questioning whether they are on it or not without the help of a map and compass, and or a GPS.



On day 2 we decided to take another route to again find the PCT trail further up in the hills. This was a longer ride but was much more interesting terrain wise. We had never ridden this area in all the winters we have been riding from the ranch and we have been missing some good trails with plenty of ravines and obstacles to work the horses through. The mud flows from this past winter have caused the landscape to change quite a bit, and I for one would not want to be in the way with all the rock and house sized boulders that came down the ravines this past winter. We found a tree on the side of a large ravine with a large rock underneath to sit and enjoyed a light lunch in the shade. It is always amazing to find dwellings in what seems to be the middle of nowhere but as we enjoyed our lunch we

noticed that there were some dwellings up at the head of the ravine and wondered what kind of rugged individuals would go that far out of their way to be off the grid. The area we were in is mostly privately owned although the windmill investors are buying up lots and installing windmills, and fencing some of it off to keep folks and grazing animals out. As we continued back to the ranch, we were going cross country and as there are not many cactus of any size in this part of the desert had little concern. My horse had stepped on one I did not see and his reaction was similar to a biting fly and I ignored it. Upon returning and removing tack and brushing the horses out Dallas had a small piece of cactus stuck to his fetlock. It came out easily but I was surprised how long he rode like that without complaining. There were 4-5 spines but all came out and so far, he is sound. Better check instead of assuming next time. There is a planned desert ride at the Starlight Ranch February 14-17th this coming year that Doug and I sponsor. We hope you can join us, and the weather will cooperate this coming year.





San Joaquin-Sierra Backcountry Horsemen



HO..Ho..HO (not WHOA!)

It's that **Time of Year** to gather for our annual **Christmas** Holiday party. You **DON'T** need to be a member to come and join in the festivities.

Saturday, December 14, 2019

Cost: \$25.00
Time: 5:00 p.m. Social Hour
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Clovis Elks Lodge
535 Woodworth Ave
Clovis



We will have
Music By
John Pemerton
entertaining us
YeeHAW!



No Host Bar
Silent Auction
And...As Always
Yummy Food
Tri Tip or Chicken

Please R.S.V.P. by December 1, 2018 to:
Jim or Debbie Dixon 559-
779-3507

or email to: jddixon@netptc.net



Auction Donations? Bring any new item to the party and we'll put 'em on the table!

Prepay and get it out of the way! Tear off and mail **BELOW!**



Back country Horsemen Christmas Dinner December 14th, 2019

Name _____ Number of Attendees _____

Chicken Dinners# _____ Tri Tip Dinners # _____ Paid amt. _____

Mail to: Jim & Debbie Dixon P.O. Box 319 Shaver Lake, CA
93664

THE DANGER OF AN UN-LEVEL TRAILER

Why should a trailer be level? For a horse trailer to avoid overloading one of the four tires or possibly breaking one of the axles, it must be level when hitched to a tow vehicle. What we mean by “being level” is that the weight of the trailer should be sitting evenly on both axles and all four tires. Since each tire and axle is rated to sustain up to a specific maximum weight, any weight over that specific weight will overload the tire and result in a blow-out or a broken axle. With most horse trailers today being equipped with rubber torsion axles, weight shifts from one axle to another rather quickly when raising or lowering the nose, making it even more critical to insure that the trailer is level.

LEVELING A HORSE TRAILER.

Preparation: Check each tire’s pressure to ensure that they are all the same. This is important to achieve a correct level. I suggest filling them to the maximum pounds per square inch (psi) – they will flex less, ride cooler, and less apt to blow. You can locate the psi of the tires on the side wall.



Adjustable Bumper Pull Coupler

Bumper Pull Trailers: To correctly set the level of

your bumper pull trailer, park the trailer and tow vehicle on a flat surface. If the trailer is blatantly un-level when hooked to the tow vehicle, unhitch the trailer and raise or lower it so that the trailer is level. Since fenders, running boards, and other flat spots on the trailer may not be straight, using a level on one of these areas may not give you accurate information.

The best way to determine the trailer’s levelness is to first, stand a distance from the trailer and observe by sight if it looks as if it is sitting level. Then look at the tires to determine if they are equally flat rather than one tire being rounded. The rounded tire means there is little or no weight on it. The next step is to determine how to achieve the correct trailer height when the trailer is hitched to the tow vehicle. This can be achieved in two ways. EquiSpirit has an adjustable coupler on all its bumper pulls so with a wrench, you can adjust the trailer coupler up or down to the height of the ball mount on the tow vehicle. Most other bumper pull trailers do not have this feature, so you will need to choose a ball mount with the right height to keep the trailer level when hitched up. Ball mounts will have what is called “drops” (0”, 2”, 4” 6”) so depending on the height of your tow vehicle, you will need acquire the proper ball mount. You may not get the level exact, but close is okay as long as there is flatness on both tires. If the level is slightly off, have the nose a bit up rather than a bit down – it will track better.



Gooseneck Trailers: The gooseneck trailer should be

Adjustable Gooseneck Coupler

unhitched from the tow vehicle and parked on a flat, level surface. Observe the trailer to see if it looks level and to determine that the tires (tires need to have the correct psi) are equally flat on the bottom rather than one being more rounded and the other more flat.

Once you determine that the trailer is level, measure from the ground to the lowest part of the gooseneck. Then measure from the ground to the top of the tailgate or side of the bed of your truck. Subtract that distance from the distance from the ground to the top of the gooseneck. The amount will be the clearance you will have from the top of the tail gate to the bottom of the gooseneck with the trailer sitting level. It should be at least six inches – preferably seven or eight so that the trailer does not hit the tail gate or sides of the truck when going over uneven terrain. If you prefer not to pre measure, with the trailer sitting level, drive your truck under the gooseneck (make sure your tailgate is down). If the clearance from the bottom of the gooseneck to the top of the tailgate and sides of the truck is under six inches, there will not be enough clearance to safely pull the trailer. The gooseneck will most likely hit the tailgate or the sides of the truck bed, especially on uneven terrain. If your tow vehicle adequately clears the truck bed while the trailer is sitting level, you can adjust the coupler up or down to meet the ball while the trailer remains level.

Note: Most all gooseneck couplers are adjustable by loosening or removing a couple bolts and sliding the coupler up or down. It's important to note that the adjustable coupler does not raise the whole trailer up and down, just the nose. So if the clearance from the top your tailgate (and sides of your bed) to the bottom of the gooseneck is less than 6" while the trailer is sitting level, raising the coupler will only raise the nose of the trailer, shifting weight onto the rear axles and tires. The adjustable coupler's purpose is to adjust for different height truck beds such as a four wheel drive as opposed to two. If your trailer does not have the proper clearance over the truck bed, your options are limited. You can purchase a trailer that will fit your current truck, purchase a truck that has a lower truck bed (two wheel drive as opposed to four), or you can have the axles blocked up 4" by your local service center.

THIS HORSE TRAILER SAFETY ARTICLE IS PROVIDED BY EQUISPIRIT HORSE TRAILERS.

DESERT RIDE AT STARLIGHT RANCH NE OF ROSAMOND CA

February 14-17, 2020

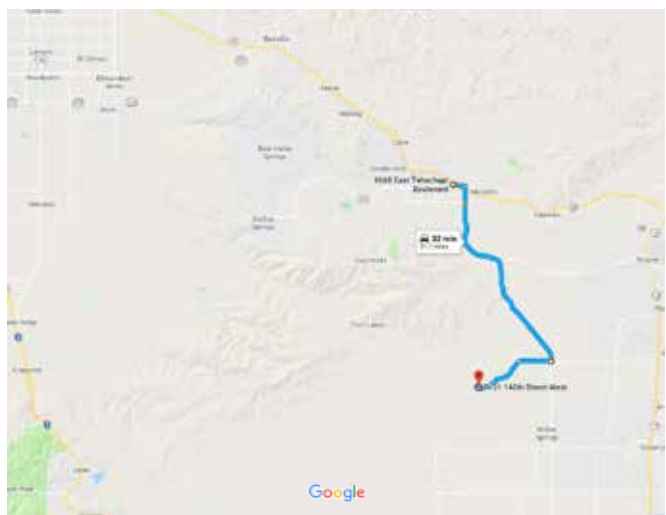
We normally go into town (Rosamond 1/2 hr away) Friday night for dinner at our favorite Mexican restaurant. There is an Albertsons, convenience stores and gas stations there. A Simple Breakfast to be provided at 9:00am Saturday and Sunday. Potluck Dinner Saturday, we will provide pulled pork or deep pit beef. We need RSVP by February 7th. Need to bring water and anything else they want to drink. Some beds available but need to secure with us. Bed rolls tents and whatever is needed for general camping. Terrain is simple to difficult depending on trail with all trails being packed to loose desert soils that are easy on the hoofs. Coyotes and Jack rabbits mice and desert rats for local animals. There are snakes but I have never seen one and we have done a lot of cross country out there. Most of the trails/roads are a gradual climb but depends on what you want to do. There is one that goes up to the PCT but would be a long ride. Clean up needs to be done behind horses and distribute outside fence. Take out all other that you bring in. There is a new outhouse on the property and a flush toilet in the house. May want to bring your own toiletries to be safe.

The gate at the ranch will be open at noon on the 14th and property will be cleared and gate closed by 2pm Monday the 17th.

Directions: Starlight Ranch is already tagged on google maps if you use that. The map shows traveling on what is called Aqueduct RD but you want to go 30' further on Backus Rd to what we call Upper Aqueduct RD where you will see a large Rock painted with a Smiley Face. Although the lower road can be used to get there, there are more obstacles and a large dip that larger trailers may have issues with. Take CA Hwy 99 south to CA Hwy 58 East out of Bakersfield to Tehachapi about 43 miles. Exit at Tehachapi Blvd and go Right on Tehachapi Blvd. Loves Truck Stop will be on your Right. Continue on Tehachapi Blvd for 1 mile and go Right on Willow Springs Road and follow for 16.0 miles where you will turn Right on Backus RD. Backus RD is paved for about 1.2 miles When you come to the end of the pavement you will see a dirt road to the right that you will proceed on. The rest of the trip is on dirt roads. You will continue on Dirt Backus RD over a short bridge and on to Upper Aqueduct RD. You will see a large rock painted with a Smiley Face. Turn left and continue on Upper Aqueduct RD for 3.6 miles to 140th St. There will be a curved dirt road leading to the right onto 140th St and most will want to take that. You will see a sign on your left that says Starlight Ranch. Go left before the sign and drive straight back about 100 feet and through the

gate to the ranch. You will need to bring water for overnight stays. The ranch is cyclone fenced but horses/stock will need to be tied up. There are just 3-4 highline areas first come first serve. There are some bed opportunities in the house and out buildings on the property but please call to claim. Jim and Doug Laber will be hosting the ride at the Starlight Ranch which is owned by Family. We will have a generator there that gives us lights in the house in the evenings. There is a large patio and fire pit for gatherings. Firewood if you have it will help and we will be bringing some out with us. It can get very cold and or very windy at the ranch so be prepared for that. Jim Laber, Cell: 559-250-7906, Doug laber, Cell 559-786-6634

LAT: 34.92479 LON: 118.382792



**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/PO 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 -

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	\$ 50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family (Shared) Membership	\$ 60.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult (18-25 years old)	\$ 15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Individual	\$ 90.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Family	\$110.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Year Individual	\$125.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Year Family	\$150.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor Membership	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron Membership	\$250.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 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



BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA

EQUINE FIRST AID

WHAT TO HAVE AND HOW TO USE IT

PLAN AND PREPARE

Depending on where you are riding or packing, in the event of an equine emergency, it may take several hours or longer for your stock to be treated by a veterinarian. You should plan and prepare to be on your own in caring for your injured stock for several hours or longer.

If you are traveling away from home, create and take with you a list of several local large animal veterinary hospitals that could treat your stock, in the event of a medical emergency. Include the hospital name, address, phone numbers and directions (if you do not have GPS).

Prepare a complete equine first aid kit for your trailer or packing, and a smaller one to take on the trail in your saddlebags. You will need the supplies necessary to stabilize your stock in the event of an emergency, until a veterinarian is available to take over your animal's care.

EQUINE FIRST AID

- Trail Kit
- Betadine solution
- Betadine scrub
- Electrolytes
- Neosporin
- Nolvasan
- Saline solution
- *Ace (acetylpromazine)
- *Banamine
- *Bute (phenylbutazone)
- *Dex (dexamethasone)
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Topical eye ointment
- Emergency blanket
- Paper and waterproof
- Flashlight/light sticks
- Stethoscope
- Bandage scissors
- Standing wraps
- Rolls of sheet cotton
- Easy Boot
- Vetwrap or Elastikon
- Hoof pick
- Duct tape
- Sharp knife
- Sterile gauze pads (4" x 4")
- Gauze rolls
- Latex gloves
- Cell phone (realize it quite possibly will not work)
- ¾" – 1" hose (to keep nostrils open in a snake bite)
- Equine rectal thermometer
- Sanitary napkins (to stop bleeding)
- Fly repellent

**These prescription medications should be obtained from your veterinarian, along with specific instructions on how and when to administer each.*

NORMAL HORSE VITAL SIGNS

- **Temperature:** 99 – 101 F
- **Pulse:** 30 – 42 beats per minute
- **Respiration:** 12 – 20 breaths per minute
- **Capillary Refill (gums):** 2 seconds or less
- **Skin pinch test (hydration):** should snap back immediately
- **Mucous membranes of gums:** should be pink (not pale/white or blue/purple)

Learn the "normal" vital signs for each of your stock. Record the normal vital signs for each of your stock animals at rest and include this list in each first aid kit. Learn how to take your horse's vital signs.

IF AN EQUINE EMERGENCY OCCURS

- Stay calm and do not panic.
- Gather your animal's vital signs and other information to give to the vet.
- Call the veterinarian or send someone to seek help.
- Keep the horse as quiet and still as possible.
- Enlist help from others before evaluating or treating a sick or injured animal.
- Evaluate the location and severity of the illness or injury.

Prevention
is not good luck,



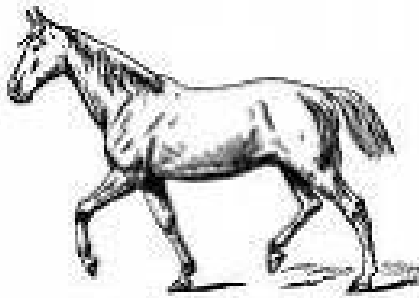
it's good management!

COLIC

Colic is a general term for pain in the gut of a horse or mule. Colic is the number one cause of death in the equine world. It has many causes and its symptoms range from mild to fatal. You cannot look at a horse at the beginning of a colic episode and accurately assess the severity of the situation.

If you observe the symptoms of colic in your stock:

1. Note and write down the time initial symptoms were observed.
2. Contain the horse in an area free of manure for observation.
3. Remove all feed, but leave water available.
4. Take and record your horse's vital signs.
5. Consult with a vet by telephone, if possible.
6. Be prepared to immediately transport your stock to veterinary care, if necessary.



TYING UP OR AZOTURIA

Symptoms of "tying up" may include: sudden reluctance or inability to move; excessive sweating; resting heart rate over 60 BPM; resting respiration rate over 30 BPM; hard, tense hindquarter muscles; a painful and stiff gait and swishing tail. "Tying up" is exercise-related muscle degeneration due to the build-up of lactic acid in the blood, resulting in severe cramping and pain. If you notice these signs, stop and dismount immediately. To continue moving your horse may cause further muscle damage. Do not attempt to walk your horse out of it. Prescription medications may be administered under the orders of a vet. Horses that have tied up once are prone to do so again. Consult with your vet about conditioning and diet factors that may help to prevent tying up.

ELECTROLYTE IMBALANCE OR DEHYDRATION

Tying up that occurs well into a ride may be associated with electrolyte imbalance or dehydration. This condition needs to be addressed differently than azoturia. Keep the horse moving to avoid cramping and attempt to correct any imbalances that have occurred.

CUTS, LACERATIONS, ABRASIONS, PUNCTURES, ROPE BURNS

First, evaluate the wound or injury carefully. If there is enough loss of blood, a horse may go into shock. Stopping profuse bleeding is extremely important. To stop profuse bleeding:

1. Start with an inch-thick wad of clean gauze, a whole roll of gauze or a sanitary napkin and press that on the wound.
2. Wrap a roll of gauze to keep the initial wad in place.
3. Then add a layer of padding (sheet cotton, standing wrap or a towel).
4. Hold that in place with Vetwrap or Elastikon.
5. If the wound bleeds through, DO NOT remove the bandage! Instead, add more pressure with another layer of gauze pads and another snug layer of Elastikon or Vetwrap.

If your stock suffered a puncture wound, flush the wound with dilute Betadine solution and consult with your vet as soon as possible. If an animal's eye is injured, seek veterinary care immediately.

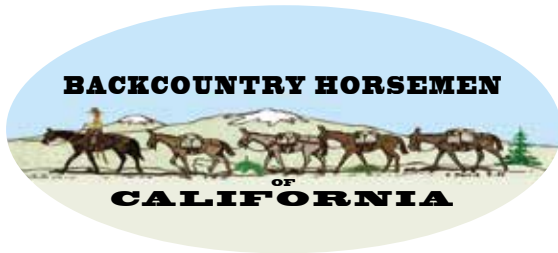
LAMENESS AND HOOF INJURIES



If your horse or mule suddenly becomes lame, you must assess the degree of lameness to see if the stock can continue on.

Any equine, unable to bear its own weight, should be evaluated by a veterinarian as soon as possible. All other lameness should be evaluated to see if you can identify the source of the problem. Always carry an Easy Boot or other shoe replacement, in the event of a shoe lost on the trail.

- Carefully evaluate your animal's lame leg, looking for heat, swelling and obvious wounds.
- Check the foot for rocks or debris and remove any you find.
- If you find a nail, call your vet before removing it. The vet may want to evaluate the injury before removing the nail.
- If you find heat or swelling and you feel qualified to put on a correct wrap, apply a support bandage. You can cause more damage with an incorrectly applied wrap.
- If your horse refuses to bear weight on the limb, keep him still and send someone for help. Continued exercise on a severe injury can cause permanent damage.



San Joaquin Sierra Unit

P.O. Box 25693
Fresno, CA 93729-5693

Objectives & Purpose of the Backcountry Horseman of California

From the BCHC Bylaws

- To improve and promote the use, care and development of California backcountry trails, campsites, streams and meadows; to advocate good trail manners.
- To promote the conservation and utilization of our backcountry resources in concert with livestock transportation.
- To keep the backcountry trails and forage areas open to horseman on all public lands.
- To keep current information before the Corporation membership and its local Units regarding new legis-lation or management plans related to government regulations of the backcountry.
- To support or oppose new proposals, plans and restrictions as related to the interest of horsemen and those persons interested in recreational stock use and enjoying the backcountry.
- To promote the interest of people who, due to health or physical factors, need transportation other than by foot on backcountry trails.
- To promote public awareness and interest in the historical aspect of horsemen and stock in the back-country and to help educate backcountry users on the ways to use the trail and foraged in a manner that conserves the backcountry resources.
- To assist in keeping the public informed of the vital need for a clean backcountry.
- To promote a working relationship with and keep the work and interests of the Corporation before our local, state and federal officials.
- To assist in the formation and continuation of local Units to carry out these purposes.