

# SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA

## Hoof Prints

June 2019

Issue 16

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

**Email:** [membership@bchcalifornia.org](mailto:membership@bchcalifornia.org) (membership email only)  
**On the WEB:** [www.bchcsjsu.org](http://www.bchcsjsu.org) (SJS Unit) or  
[www.bchcalifornia.org](http://www.bchcalifornia.org) (State)

### BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN



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

## Presidents Message



We are sure thankful for the rain and snow, so we will just have to put up with the inconvenience of changing dates and rides. This water should help us out for a couple of years. Please check the calendar on line

as dates continue to change and come join us for an event.

We did manage to get the ride in at Jose Basin, Thanks to all the weather we were able to enjoy one of the best years ever. Waterfalls that I have never seen, wild flowers everywhere you looked and perfect weather. What a great start to the new season.

Check out our calendar to see the tentative dates for rides and work parties. Some may have to change due to snow closures.

We are still looking for a historian for our unit. Also if you have a favorite place to ride and

would like to host a ride, we would be glad to help with the particulars.

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

Joe Kaminski  
President

## Your Help is Needed

There has been some concern that members and non members of BCHC San Joaquin Sierra Unit are not getting information on upcoming events. So to help correct this problem, if you are a member or a non member and want to be informed about our events please send your email address to [wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net](mailto:wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net) and I will add you to our email blasts. Also you can follow us on facebook by joining our group **BCHC-San Joaquin Sierra Unit**. Also the web page has a wealth of information, an event calendar and photos of our events. A great place to see what we are all about. Check us out at [bchcsjsu.org](http://bchcsjsu.org) Hope to hear from you soon. Remember- He who procrastinates is a murder of time. SADDLE UP !

William Duane Peverill  
BCHC-SJSU Past President

## PARK ACCESS PASS

Many Veterans, with a service connected disability rating, are entering Federal parks for free with the Lifetime National Parks Access Pass from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. Good for entry into 400+ National Parks and over 2,000 recreation sites across the country, the Lifetime Access Pass is another way a grateful nation says thank you for the service and sacrifices of Veterans with disabilities.

The Access Pass admits disabled Veterans and any passengers in their vehicle (non-commercial) at per-vehicle fee areas; and, the pass owner plus three additional adults where per-person fees are charged. In addition to free entry at participating parks, the Access Pass includes discounts on expanded amenity fees; such as camping, swimming, boat launching and guided tours.

Veterans who have a VA disability rating, (10 percent or higher) are eligible for the Lifetime Access Pass—with two ways to apply.

First, disabled Veterans can apply in person at a participating federal recreation site. Simply present photo identification (Drivers license, State ID, Passport) and documentation proving a permanent disability (VA awards letter, VA ID with service connected annotation, VA summary of benefits, or receipt of Social Security disability income). That's It. The Pass is free and issued at the time of entry.

Second, if applying by mail, send a completed packet and \$10 processing fee to the United States Geological Survey (USGS). The packet should include:

The Access Pass application form  
Proof of residency  
VA disability award letter, VA summary of benefits, or proof of SSDI income  
Pass delivery expected 10-12 weeks after receipt.

Make sure to have photo ID available when using your Lifetime Access Pass and enjoy the majestic scenery and abundant recreational opportunities our National Parks provide.

## INTRODUCTION TO MOUNTAIN RIDING GROUP FORMING

Do you love to ride your horse lots of places but have never ridden in the nearby Sierras. Perhaps you don't know where good trails are? Are unsure of how your horse will react to strange terrain, obstacles and smells? You don't have anyone to mountain ride with? You just need more information to feel safe and have fun in the mountains ? As interest dictates small groups of 4 riders and a guide will gather to ride 2 times a month in the areas above Shaver Lake, Huntington Lake and Courtright Lake. Rides will start easy and progress according to groups desires. Tailgate sessions before each ride will discuss what to expect and general safety tips. If interested please contact Muriel Holland @ 805-440-9289 for more information. I am also looking for an experienced mountain rider to ride along for safety and to share their knowledge and enthusiasm for our beautiful high country.

## WORK PARTY PARTICIPATION

Please call Joe Kaminski and let him know if you are taking part in any of the work parties on the calendar of events. They are preparing food for all who are participating and need to know as soon as possible so they can shop and cook for the crew.

Joe Kaminski, 559.909 0505  
kaminskiclan@gmail.com



### *San Joaquin Sierra Unit*

Board Meeting April 3, 2019

Call to order: 6:30

Flag salute

Roll Taken: President: Joe Kaminski, Vice President: Ruth Cramer, Secretary: Carol Kaminski, Treasurer: Gary VanSickle

Directors: Muriel Holland, Sue Van Sickle, Jim Knabke, Steve Naylon, Rick Peeren

**Minutes review and approved:** 1st Sue, 2nd. Muriel

**Correspondence:**

**Committee reports:**

**Education:** Tracy from Reedley College for what's going on. Muriel suggests holding beginner mountain rides for those new to mountain riding. She will also check on the memorial page for requirements.

**Membership:**

**Newsletter:** Articles due Apr. 20. Cara to write on chainsaw clinic and the pack clinic. Sue will write Rendezvous. Ruth will write an info article on Shaver Camp and its use.

**Public lands:** Letter to go to USFS on keeping trails opened. Asking for chainsaw waiver.

**Sunshine:**

**Shaver Lake:**

**OLD BUSINESS.** 1. Big Meadows- June and July are almost filled. Need 10 days in August and all of September.

2. Dave Stamey concert

3. 2019 Events- Steve Naylon ranch ride-April 13. Aug 3- Tamarack, Crown- June 28-July 5, Aug15-19 Chamberlain/

Beginning pack trip/work party, Deer Cove- Sept. 19. May 19

Woodlake Parade(High Sierra Unit)- May 11

Ruth made a proposal- Shaver Lake Trail Committee will be building board walk. Asking if we could haul timbers.

4. Rendezvous-

5. Christmas dinner all set. Need to work on donations.

6. Grants- Gary working on BCHA grant (for Big Meadows). Ruth and Gary working with Debbie on RAC (will include Chamberlain). There will be no Wilderness Grant.

**NEW BUSINESS:** 1. Shaver Lake Volunteers adopt a section of trail to maintain at Shaver Lake. Needs to be in contract.

Bear Valley Trail needs work. Toby had constructed this trail. This year we will recon. Shaver Lake opening to be determined at a later date.

2. Volunteer hour co-ordinator- Ruth has agreed to do the job.

**Calendar review:** Next meeting May 1, 2019

**Adjourn:** 7:50 Ruth 1st, Rick 2nd

## **LIQUIDATING**

**Liquidating all pack & camping gear,  
horse & mule pack saddles, panniers**

**Call Dave or Lil 805-937-3811**

# 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](http://www.bchcsjsu.org)

## 2019

April 27	Clovis rodeo parade
May 1	Board meeting
May 3-5	Jose Basin Ride
May 10-12	Horse Expo in Sac area (non bchc event)
May 15	General meeting
May 19-21	Big Meadow work party
June 5	Board Meeting
June 17-23	Edison Work Party    Joe Kaminski   559 733-9170
July 3	Board Meeting
July 5	Work Party out of Rancheria Trail Head Wishon area. Joe Kaminski   559 733-9170
July 18-21	Montana De Oro Camp Out   Gary Van Sickle
August 2-4	Diana Sorensen Memorial Tamarack Camp Out/Ride Joe Kaminski   559 733-9170
August 7	Board Meeting
August 13-18	Chamberlain Camp work party and beginning pack trip. Joe Kaminski   559 733-9170
August	Cancelled General Meeting
Sept 4	Board Meeting
Oct 2	Board Meeting
Oct 5	Eagle Point Ride Shaver Lake (members Only) Cara   559-901-5364. <a href="mailto:carasblueprint@sbcglobal.net">carasblueprint@sbcglobal.net</a>
Oct 10-14	CCMA Poker Ride/Camp out MDO (Non Unit)
Oct 16	Elections/General Meeting
Nov 6	Board Meeting
Dec 4	Board Meeting
Dec 14	Christmas Dinner

## 2019-20 Calendar (continued)

Work Parties TBA

### 2020

Feb 8, 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](mailto: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](http://www.bchcsjsu.org) for the San Joaquin/Sierra Unit,  
[www.bchcalifornia.org](http://www.bchcalifornia.org) for the State Web Site

*The purpose of this publication is to keep its members in- formed 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

### ONE-POT SPAGHETTI DINNER

A homemade sauce and a one-pot cooking method are the makings of a new favorite.

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 pound lean ground beef (90% lean)
- 1-3/4 cups sliced fresh mushrooms
- 3 cups tomato juice
- 1 can (14-1/2 ounces) no-salt-added diced tomatoes, drained
- 1 can (8 ounces) no-salt-added tomato sauce
- 1 tablespoon dried minced onion
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ground mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon ground allspice
- 1/8 teaspoon ground mace, optional
- 6 ounces uncooked multigrain spaghetti, broken into pieces
- Fresh mozzarella cheese pearls or shaved Parmesan cheese, optional

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. In a Dutch oven, cook beef and mushrooms over medium heat until meat is no longer pink; drain. Add tomato juice, tomatoes, tomato sauce, onion and seasonings.
2. Bring to a boil. Stir in spaghetti. Simmer, covered, 12-15 minutes or until spaghetti is tender. If desired, serve with cheese.





# SUNSHINE CORNER

Big Howdy and Welcome to our new members.  
Jazmine Shannon, Visalia, Calif  
Aaron Ernst, Visalia, Calif  
TJ Smith, Action, Calif

Hope to see you at our events. Please send your  
email address to [wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net](mailto:wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net)  
so we can keep you up to date.

Join us on Facebook BCHC-San Joaquin Sierra  
Check Webpage [bchcsjsu.org](http://bchcsjsu.org)



## The Lighter Side

A guy is walking through the country when he spots a sign that reads, "Talking Horse for Sale." Intrigued, he walks up to the stable to check it out.

"So what have you done with your life?" he asks the horse.

"I've led a full life," the horse answers miraculously. "I was born in The Andes where I herded for an entire village. Years later, I joined the mounted police force in New York and helped keep the city clean. And now, I spend my days giving free rides to underprivileged kids here in the country."

The guy is flabbergasted. He asks the horse's owner, "Why on earth would you want to get rid of such an incredible animal?"

The owner says, "Because he's a liar! He never did any of that!"

We Love To Make You Look Good!

# IDEA!

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## 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.fitzgeraldcbcs@gmail.com](mailto:linda.fitzgeraldcbcs@gmail.com).

**Asking 2,150.00.**

Call (559) 289-8322

**[www.bchcsjsu.org](http://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@sebastioncorp.net](mailto:wpeverill@sebastioncorp.net).

**[www.bchcsjsu.org](http://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



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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](http://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](mailto:cjohargreaves@verizon.net)

Back Country Horsemen of California



## San Joaquin Sierra Unit



Come and enjoy Horse Camping at the Oak Group Horse Camp at

## Montana De Oro State Park

*The park's name, "Mountain of Gold," comes from the golden wildflowers that bloom in spring. The Park features over 8,000 acres of rugged cliffs, secluded sandy beaches, coastal plains, streams, canyons, and hills, including 1,347-foot Valencia Peak. No dogs are allowed on trails.*

July 18, 19, 20, 21, 2019

Camp is available from 2:00pm Thursday 7/18/19 until noon Sunday 7/21/19.

There are miles of horse trails along the beach and in the foothills for all levels of riding.

**Potluck:** Join us for a potluck dinner Saturday night. Bring an item to be shared and your own meat item for our grill.

**Cost:** Horse and rider for 4 days is \$ 45.00; Additional individuals \$ 3.00

Oak Group Camp has 16 corrals, pit toilets, water for horses only, no showers, and no hook-ups.

Contact Information: Gary Van Sickle (559) 288-0301

This is a BCHC-SJSU sponsored event and you must be a member of BCHC to attend.

Reservations are limited and will only be taken upon receipt of signed check with reservation form below.

NAME:		PHONE:	
ADDRESS:			
Please make check payable to <b>BCHC-SJSU</b> and mail with completed reservation form to:  Gary Van Sickle 31831 Road 132 Visalia, CA 93292	EMAIL:		Amount
	Number of Horses with rider		@ \$ 45.00 ea. \$
	Additional individuals		@ \$ 3.00 ea. \$
	<b>TOTAL:</b>		\$



## **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

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Term Expires at end of year:

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muriel@netptc.net  
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2021

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2021

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### **Big Meadows Horse Camp**

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jjknabke@comcast.net

## **ADVISORS**

### **Past President**

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

## **SJS Unit Fund Raisers For Sale**

**"There's a Mule Under My Saddle Cookbook"** by Jean Brown of Idaho \$10.00

**Hats** \$15.00

*Khaki with a maroon or forest green bill are embroidered with one horse, two mules and says Backcountry Horsemen of California.*

**Scarf** \$13.00

*Scarves are a dark blue and are embroidered with one horse, two mules and says Backcountry Horsemen of California*

**Maroon Shirts** \$37.00 (Extra Tall \$40.00). The shirts must be prepaid before the order. The logo on the left is BCHC with San Joaquin Sierra Unit under the BCHC. Names added for \$5.00 in a group.

**Horse First Aid.....great, informative quick reference** \$25.00

Contact: Pete Parkin 559-871-4500 ktzpaw@yahoo.com &/or look for items at our rides and meetings.

## HAS YOUR HORSE BEEN CUT?

I include this story as I had a recent incident happen with my horse while riding in the desert. Doug and I had gone out to the desert to ride and arrived on Friday night. Upon waking and getting horses ready in the morning I found that my horse had both his mane and tail cut. I did not first believe that anyone would do that but the missing hair was cut in straight chunky fashion that could only happen with a scissors. This was not a rubbing issue as I have experience with that, but it was done to the whole mane and the tale although not cut off completely it had large chunks cut out throughout its length that almost made the tail look layered. I spoke to a few people about this and although they had never witnessed it they had stories of it being a problem mostly done for money but some stories of it being used for crafts and cultural events. Anyway thought I would share this article so that we may be more vigilant and informed.

By:

Joyce Coates  
Enterprise Staff

On an otherwise ordinary day, one or more thieves sneaked onto Charlotte O'Dell's hobby farm last month, cut off and absconded with hair from the tails of her mammoth jack and her mule.

What seems an odd but cruel act, unfortunately is only one among the latest wave of similar incidents occurring across the Midwest. On January 7 this year the Kansas City Star reported six separate thefts in Wyandotte County, KS by thieves who snuck into stables at night to cut and steal horses' tails. In March, a similar theft occurred in Omaha and in South Dakota on April 26.

Hundreds of incidents in Wyoming in 2013 spread to Colorado, Ohio, Missouri and Illinois. Similar thefts were reported in South Dakota in 2004, in Montana in 2010 and elsewhere in the years between. And now, the problem has come to Benton County.

On Thursday evening, October 19, Charlotte O'Dell came home after work and as usual went out to take care of the animals. Surprised and upset to find their tails noticeably thinner and shorter, she called a friend to come and see. They realized the tails had been cut, "scalped," in O'Dell's words. On Saturday she called the Sheriff's Office to report the incident.

O'Dell said for years there have been no problems. The animals graze in a field fenced in by barbed wire, so she does not know how outsiders gained access to them. Tree trimmers from Southwest Electric company were working at the farm that day, but when asked, said they had not seen anyone else on the property.

Every year during hunting season O'Dell is concerned about the possibility of hunters' stray bullets hitting the livestock. Now, in addition, she and every other horse owner in Benton County must be alert to this new threat, and do whatever they can to protect their

animals against sneak-thief attacks.

These animals need their tails to communicate, for warmth in winter and to control pests, especially during the summer months. Sadly, for O'Dell's jack and mule, it will take at least a year for their tail hair to grow back. One owner whose horse's tail was stolen after being cut off nearly to the bony tip, said, "stealing its tail is like cutting off a person's limb."

Animal cruelty carries fines and penalties laid out in Section 578.012 of Missouri Revised Statutes. First time offenses may be charged as misdemeanors, but for repeated offenses, or intentional acts involving "torture or mutilation, or both, consciously inflicted while the animal was alive," violators can be charged with a felony and sentenced to up to seven years in prison.

In medieval times it was not uncommon for vengeful men to cut off the meticulously groomed, flowing manes and tails of their enemies' horses. A perpetrator in those days intended to insult and demean a rival knight by attacking his horse, a source of pride that reflected its owner's masculinity, power and prestige. Centuries later, however, thefts of horsetails and hair have rarely been motivated by personal rivalries.

Trading in horsetails and hair can be lucrative and attracts legitimate dealers or otherwise.

Some historical examples of legitimate trade: In 1912, the United States was importing and exporting horsetails or hair from China, Japan and Russia, as well as from European and many other nations. In 1952, the Navy began making paintbrushes from horsetail hair instead of hog bristles. In 1972, Leavenworth Prison paid \$443,448 for 155,000 lbs. of horsetail hair for prisoners to use to make brushes.

Turning to the "otherwise," as long ago as 1860 in Australia, 1894 in New York, and 1916 in St. Louis, to name a few, newspapers were reporting employees sent to jail for stealing horsetails and hair. Temptation overcame one greedy secretary in 1980 in California who was arrested for stealing horsetail hair from her employer worth \$20,000, and selling it from her apartment.

Horsetail hair is sold by the pound, for as much as \$400-\$500 for white palomino hair. It is used in many everyday products, including: baskets, belts, brushes of all types, carpet, cloth, curlers, fabrics, fishing lines, furniture padding, hats, lariats, fishing nets, jewelry brings in as much as \$1,000-\$2,000 for braided horse bridles, upholstery cloth, violin and cello bows, whips, and wigs, including extensions for humans and show horses.

The horse owner victims of these crimes agree with the police and county sheriffs who investigate them that the perpetrators, whether small-time crooks or organized bands, are motivated by the opportunity to make easy money. Unfortunately, unscrupulous dealers, many of them online, keep the black-market trade alive.

Cutting and stealing a horse's tail and hair is lowdown and dishonorable. Hopefully, there will be no more of it here.

# DIANA SORENSEN 3RD ANNUAL



## MEMORIAL RIDE

TAMARACK SNOW PARK AREA

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**FREE**

*Saturday, August 3, 2019*



## BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA UNIT

*Saturday, August 3, 2019*

*Breakfast and Lunch served*

*In the saddle and riding out by 10:00 a.m.*

**RSVP By July 28, 2019 To confirm attendance & direction or Information. Contact:**

**Joe/ Carol Kaminski**

**559 909 0505**

Dry Camping available. NO POTABLE WATER. May be creek water available for horses/mules.

Riders Meeting 9:00 A.M. All riders out on ride no later than 10:00.

Two separate Trails will be available to ride. Your choice.

**No Dogs. No Stallions. No ponying allowed on this ride and under 18 must wear helmet**

*Coffee, Pastries and Biscuits and Gravy will be served prior to ride.*

*Deep Pit Lunch -Awards-Raffle after ride.*

**ALL NAMES will go into drawing for Memorial Buckle.**



## COME EARLY AND CAMP

**Open to The PUBLIC-Bring Chair-Water for your horse. Sign up EARLY!!**

Web page [bchcsjsu.org](http://bchcsjsu.org)



Directions:

Hwy 168 east above Shaver Lake. Turn right at Tamarack Snow Park.

Stay on Rock Creek dirt road to the right (heading south). Camp Site 9S45 is 2.1 miles in. Turn right.



**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)

<input type="checkbox"/> Antelope Valley	<input type="checkbox"/> Kern Sierra	<input type="checkbox"/> North Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Ana River
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Sierra	<input type="checkbox"/> Lake-Mendo	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Crest	<input type="checkbox"/> Sequoia
<input type="checkbox"/> High Country	<input type="checkbox"/> Los Padres	<input type="checkbox"/> Redshank Riders	<input type="checkbox"/> Shasta Trinity
<input type="checkbox"/> High Sierra	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid Valley	<input type="checkbox"/> Redwood	<input type="checkbox"/> Sierra Freepackers
<input type="checkbox"/> Kern River Valley	<input type="checkbox"/> Mother Lode	<input type="checkbox"/> San Diego	<input type="checkbox"/> Sutter Buttes
		<input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin Sierra	<input type="checkbox"/> 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](http://bchcalifornia.org)  
or call (775) 463-3634**

**KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS**

I submitted an Application Form for a new -

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	<b>\$ 50.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Family (Shared) Membership	<b>\$ 60.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult (18-25 years old)	<b>\$ 15.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Individual	<b>\$ 90.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year Family	<b>\$110.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Year Individual	<b>\$125.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Year Family	<b>\$150.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor Membership	<b>\$100.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron Membership	<b>\$250.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mt. Whitney Membership	<b>\$500.00</b>

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

# SHAVER LAKE HORSE CAMP OPENS

## Camp Will Open for Memorial Day Weekend

BCHC San Joaquin Sierra Unit again makes the Shaver Lake Horse Camp available for use by members and associate members wishing to enjoy camping and riding at Shaver Lake.

Shaver Lake is situated at elev. 5,300 ft. within the Sierra National Forest on scenic recreational land. There are ample riding destinations, as the camp itself is adjacent to the 12.5 mile Perimeter Trail that surrounds the lake. Also in the vicinity are the Ely Mountain and Balsam Forebay Trails.

The camp is located behind a locked gate, 1 mile East of Highway 168 on Dinkey Creek Road. It is a dry camp, with portable sanitary facilities. There are two tables, a fire pit and 3 stalls. Fire regulations apply; cookstoves can be used on the table top. And, of course, campers must Leave No Trace.

California's Greatest Lakes.com describes Shaver Lake as "one of the most enjoyable vacation lakes in California", with a "balmy, 78-degree average high temperature." This writer has enjoyed many pleasurable hours riding and appreciating a picture-perfect view at every turn. Make your plans and reservations now to enjoy a perfect mountain experience for both you and your horse.

The camp will be open May 24 through October 31, 2019, for SJSU members only.

Cost is per membership—\$10/day for camping, \$5/day for picnic use.

Other units are welcome to use the camp after joining as Associate Members (\$15 additional).

To make reservations, contact:

Ruth Cramer

[racramer@outlook.com](mailto:racramer@outlook.com)

559-417-3878

### ***Volunteer opportunity!***

Sign up for the opening work party on Friday May 17.



## CLOVIS PARADE

This year we had another successful ride in the Clovis Rodeo parade. This year we came in second place in our division! The weather was perfect and we had a great entry number putting us early in the second section. Our flag bearers, John Mikkelson and Tiffany Beechinor, did us proud, and we had a good rider turnout. Thanks to Carol Kaminski, Jaedyn Traeger, Steve Naylon, Paige Stambach, Ruth Cramer, Marcee Hansen, Lois Patten, Karen Daughrity, Barbara-Calkins Faggart and the stars of the show, Bob Herrick and Lee Herrick with their wonderful string of mules. Thanks to everyone who participated and for looking so awesome in their matching parade attire.

See you next year.

Jan Mikkelson





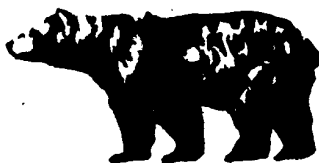


## BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA

# *Black Bear Sense*

### A COMMON SENSE GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING BEARS

*A leaf fell in the woods.  
The eagle saw it.*



*The deer heard it.  
And the bear smelled it.*

You humans have me figured to be just like Yogi, BooBoo or your cuddly stuffed Teddy Bear. Please remember; I am a wild animal. Statistically, you are quite safe from us bears. We do add a risk to you visiting the backcountry but you take a much greater risk driving to the trailhead. Even if you should die in the wilderness, you are much more likely to fall off a cliff, drown, suffer heart failure or succumb to hypothermia than you are to be attacked by one of us bears.

My eyesight is not perfect but my sense of smell and hearing are very keen. I can smell you humans coming for quite some distance and I'll usually be gone at the first whiff of human intrusion. There are some of us bears you have invited in for milk and cookies. To some of my fellow bears, the smell of humans in the woods works like a dinner bell. All of us bears remember where our meals come from. We aren't dumb and our stomachs rule. We have a road map sketched in our minds. All the best restaurants (campsites, berry patches, cars, oak groves, etc.) are located on this map and we will visit them again in a couple of days.

We bears are intelligent and opportunistic critters and when we become accustomed to the idea that humans share our space, we readily take advantage of everything that association has to offer — such as helping ourselves to your delicious pork and beans, granola bars, bacon, toothpaste, soap. Some of us have even cultivated a taste for chocolate. We will also eat chapstick and deodorant. With noses like ours, it is impossible to hide the fact that you are keeping all that good stuff in your tent, your car, or your camper! Our noses lead us to the food and our incredible strength gets us past almost any obstacle. We are able to open the side of your trailer as though we had can openers for claws. We will open cans of spaghetti sauce and ravioli. The fact is, when we bears are offered the choice, we will almost always opt for the easiest meal at hand; we have discovered that beef stew with milk and cookies tastes better than grubs!

If we gain access to your food, we become habituated. That means we become dependent on human food sources and are less afraid of humans. Therefore, it is critical that we never gain access to human food. You humans need to mind your manners while you are visiting the forests and parks. Take time to store your food properly at the campground and in the backcountry. It is your moral and legal responsibility. Proper food storage makes the difference between a wild bear and a dead bear because problem bears are often destroyed. The following suggestions may make the difference of having a good time during your visit or going home angry and upset. Please help us both stay alive.

# ***Black Bear Essentials to Remember***

The following are what we bears would like you humans to remember.

**You Must Be Alert**

**Please Do Not Surprise Me**

**You Are Being Aggressive If You:**

Get between me and my cub  
Are anywhere near a carcass ....  
It's my food!

Walk directly towards me  
Circle or crowd me .....

I need an escape route!  
Try to take "your" food away from me .....  
It's mine!



The following are some helpful hints to remember while visiting the forests and parks.

**Avoid a Confrontation**

Separate cooking and sleeping areas  
Store food and garbage properly  
Keep a clean camp site

**Avoid a Confrontation: Watch for these Signs**

Large areas of torn up ground  
Rocks or boulders turned over  
Logs or stumps torn apart  
Fish or dead animals  
Berries  
Claw marks on trees  
Bear scat

**Remember: Wild Animals Can Be Dangerous**

Bears habituated to food are dangerous  
Do not run  
Try to look larger than you are  
Do not bend down  
Each situation is different

## **REMEMBER**

Bears have an extraordinary sense of smell. Bears are attracted to and will eat anything with an odor. While not normally aggressive towards humans, bears are possessive of their food and will defend it. They are very quick and powerful. **DO NOT TRY TO RETRIEVE YOUR FOOD FROM A BEAR.** If a bear gets into your food, stay a safe distance away and then be sure to clean up the mess afterwards. Report incidents to a ranger. You can keep bears wild and alive by storing your food properly. Just use some thought and preparation.

## **PROPER FOOD STORAGE FOR BACKCOUNTRY USERS**

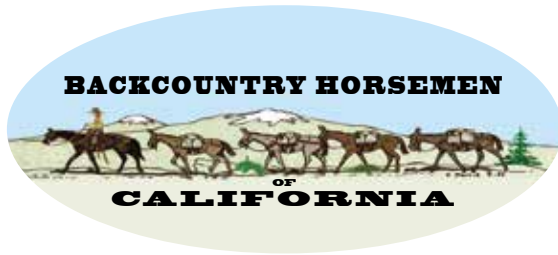
On some trails you may be visited by bears every night. On others, you may not see bears your entire trip; however, that does not mean that bears do not live in that area. In all cases, the best way to store your food properly is in a portable, BEAR-RESISTANT CANISTER OR PANNIER. Safe food storage is as simple as placing the locked canister or pannier on the ground 50 feet from your camp. **THIS METHOD OF FOOD STORAGE IS THE ONLY PROVEN, EFFECTIVE WAY TO STORE YOUR FOOD.** It is required in some areas of the backcountry that you store your food in bear-resistant containers. Please check with the agencies about requirements before starting your trip. Canisters are for sale and rent at sporting goods stores and some ranger stations. Panniers are available through some saddle shops. Using a bear-resistant container allows for maximum freedom and safety while traveling and when choosing a camp location. The counter-balance method should be your last resort. This method is hard to do well, requires trees and rope, and bears often thwart it. In fact, bears will probably get your food if you do not get out of your warm bed and make some mighty loud noise and keep a sentinel on watch after the first visit.

## **PROPER FOOD STORAGE AT CAMPGROUNDS AND TRAILHEADS**

Food storage is just as important at campgrounds and trailheads. Having more people and vehicles around doesn't mean there is less danger of losing your food. To a bear, more people means more food. **STORE ALL FOOD IN FOOD STORAGE LOCKERS IF THEY ARE AVAILABLE.** If there are no lockers, then store the food and ice chest in your vehicle (better in the trunk), keep them covered and out of sight. Leaving food in your vehicle at the trailhead while you are in the



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[www.bchcalifornia.org](http://www.bchcalifornia.org) 4/11



*San Joaquin Sierra Unit*

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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 legislation 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.