

# SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA Hoof Prints



February 2023

Issue 55

**San Joaquin Sierra Unit, BCHC**  
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[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



I hope all had a great Christmas and may it be a fantastic New Year. Here is a report of our past year.

2022 started out busy and stayed that way. Our unit managed to have monthly board meetings, and three general meeting.

We had rides in Jan. and July at Montana de Oro. The rides were also instrumental in bringing in some new members. Our unit continues to maintain and operate three horse camps in the Sierra and Sequoia National Forests. Part of the agreement for the Shaver Lake camp is that we work on the

surrounding trails. Members cleared trails and removed trees on the Shaver Lake Trail system. In May members readied Big Meadows for another year of free camping to the public by making repairs and general clean up.

We also provide host for the season for Big Meadows totaling approximately 720hrs. In addition our unit paid all the cost incurred by the camp for materials, pumping outhouse, and weekly trash removal at a cost of \$3,665.34. We also had a joint work day in conjunction with the Sequoia Forest where they provided 3 workers and equipment in order to fill all the pens with dg. A trip was also made to Chamberlain camp to maintain the camp. This is a wilderness camp out of the Maxom Meadows trailhead. Work was also done on two causeways on trails leading out of Courtwright Lake. In June we spent 7 days clearing trails out of Edison Lake. All

work was completed with no injuries or close calls. We cleared and cut out over 100 trees covering more than 17 miles of trail. Trees ranged in size from 1 inch to approximately 60 inches.

Aug. we sponsored a scavenger ride at Shaver Lake with approximately 58 participants. Our annual memorial ride hosted over 20 riders and no cancellations even with the inclement weather. Nov. was our election meeting with about 20 participants. We also had a guest speaker Paul Barile from High Sierra Pack station with a travelogue of his trips throughout the John Muir from Yosemite to mt. Whitney

Dec. we held our annual Christmas dinner. It is always a great time for members to come together, have a great meal, and enjoy the evening. This year we were once again blessed to have the Gilley Girls for our entertainment. The group consist of two sets of twins providing fantastic blue grass music including Christmas songs. At this dinner we also gave out our Top Hand Award to Jim Laber.

Joe Kaminski  
President

## CONTEST TIME

*Find the Hidden Hoof Print!* 

First person to find the hidden hoof print in this newsletter and email Jim Laber @ [jim@visaliaidea.com](mailto:jim@visaliaidea.com)

**Will Get A Free**  
**BCHCSJSU Long Sleeve Color T-Shirt**

**GOOD LUCK!**

# 2021-2022 Calendar

Board Meetings are on the 1st Tuesday 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)

## 2022

June 7	Meeting
June 11	Poker Ride Shaver Lake Click For Information
June 24-30	Edison Work Party
July 5	Meeting
July 21-25	Montana de Oro Campout
Aug 2	Meeting
Aug 19-21	Packing 101 into Chamberlain. Info to follow.
Sept 6	Meeting
Sept 10	Memorial Ride Big Meadows Horse Camp
Oct 4	Meeting
Oct 18	General Meeting/Elections
Oct 6-10	Coastal Mounted Unit MDO (non BCHCSJSU Event)
Nov 1	Meeting
Dec 6	Meeting
Dec 10	Christmas Dinner

## 2023

Jan 3	Meeting
Jan 19-23	MDO Camp Out
Jan 24	General Meeting
Feb 7	Meeting
Feb 17-19	Laber Brothers Desert Ride
March 7	Meeting
April 4	Meeting
April 29	Clovis Parade
May 2	Meeting
May 23	General Meeting
June 6	Meeting
June TBA	Poker Ride Shaver Lake
June 24-30	Edison Work Party
July 5	Meeting
July TBA	Montana de Oro Campout

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, [kaminskiclan@gmail.com](mailto:kaminskiclan@gmail.com). You may call 559.909 0505 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.*

## DUTCH OVEN JAMBALAYA

*This jambalaya combines shrimp, sausage, chicken, and rice in a flavorful one-pot meal that is packed with flavor.*

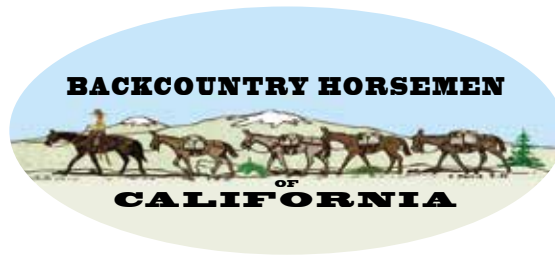
### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 tablespoons oil or bacon grease
- ¼ of a white onion, diced small
- ¼ of a green pepper, diced small
- ½ stalk celery, diced small
- 1 14oz can roasted, crushed tomatoes
- 1 cup rice
- 1 sausage, boudin or andouille, sliced
- 9 raw shrimp, size 16/20, peeled and deveined with tail on
- 2 chicken thighs, skin removed
- 1 clove of garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- ½ teaspoon cumin
- 1 spring of thyme (or ¼ teaspoon dried)
- 1 ⅔ cups chicken stock



### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Prepare the meats and fish. Make sure the vein has been removed from the shrimp, but you can keep the tail on. The perfect size is 16/20, which will be printed on the bag, but any size will work.
2. Add your oil or grease to the dutch oven over medium high heat. Saute the onion, celery, green bell pepper, chicken and sausage for about 2-3 minutes. If you're cooking over coals, the heat is right when you hear the vegetables sizzling.
3. Add in the rice and stir to keep it from sticking. Then add the garlic, paprika, cumin and thyme, and stir constantly for about 2 minutes.
4. Add in canned tomatoes and chicken stock. Cover with the lid and cook for 10 minutes without opening.
5. At the 10 minute mark, add in the shrimp and cover to cook for 10 more minutes.
6. When done, the mix should be sauced but not overly soupy. Serve hot in a bowl.



### *San Joaquin Sierra Unit*

Board Meeting Dec. 6, 2022

Call to order: 6:30

Flag salute

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

Directors: Sue Van Sickle, Richard Telles, Tami Telles, Doug Laber, Past President: Duane Peverill

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

**Correspondence:**

**Committee reports:**

**Education:**

**Membership:**

**Newsletter:** Articles due Jan. 20.

**Public lands:**

**Sunshine:**

**Shaver Lake:** Closed

**Big Meadows:** Closed

**OLD BUSINESS.** 1. EVENTS for 2022

Dec.6 - Board meeting

Dec. 10 - Christmas dinner

2023 EVENTS

Jan 19-23 MDO. \$45 per pen. Drop dead date Jan.11!

Feb. 16-19 Starlight Ranch

Mar. 24-26 Rendezvous Temecula.

April - Clovis Rodeo Parade

May - Jose' Basin

June - Shaver Ride Raffle

2. Christmas Dinner - Mostly raffle, small auction items. \$200 from club for purchase. Duane 1st, Doug 2nd.

Board to provide dessert.

3. Gorge - Ruth Work party needed. Jim to check fence.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Next meeting:** Jan. 3, 2023

**Adjourn:** 7:15 Ruth 1st, 2nd Sue



## DESERT RIDE AT STARLIGHT RANCH NW OF ROSAMOND CA

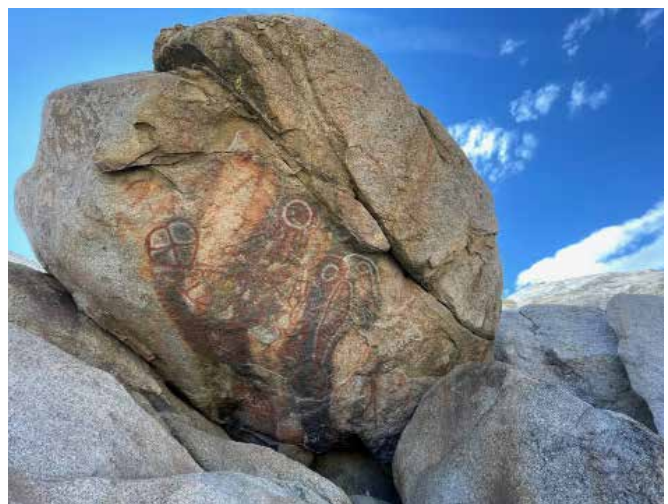


**February 17-19, 2023**

We were made aware and found Indian Petroglyphs in this area last year and will be taking a ride to them on Saturday. A Breakfast to be provided by 9:00am Saturday and Sunday. Potluck Dinner Saturday, we will provide the main course and please bring an item to share. We need **RSVP by February 13th**. Need to bring water for you and your horse and anything else you want to drink. Some beds available but need to secure with us. Terrain is simple to difficult depending on trail, with all trails being packed to loose desert soils that are easy on the hoofs. Most of the trails/roads are a gradual climb but depends on what you want to do. Clean up needs to be done behind horses/stock and distributed outside fence. Take out all other that you bring in. There is an 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 17th and property will be cleared and gate closed by 2pm Sunday the 20th.

**Directions:** LAT: 34.924709 LON: 118.382792 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. (**Note: Google tries to get you to turn prior to Rd 140. Do not take that turn. That's the hard way. We will have the way marked with BCHCSJSU Directional signs along the dirt road**). There will be a curved dirt road leading to the right onto 140th St and most will want to take that. You will then 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. Hope to see you there! Jim Laber, Cell: 559-250-7906, Doug laber, Cell 559-786-6634



## 2022 Christmas Party

"I thought this years dinner was one of the nicest we have had. Good company, food and real Christmas entertainment" said a party goer. Another simply stated... "I thought it was perfect!"

Yes, this party was a success! For the first time our delicious meal was provided by Classic Catering of Clovis, who cooked a lovely combination of both chicken and beef. It was very much a treat to relieve the burden from the unit members of cooking, serving and cleaning up. Everyone was able to enjoy the meal, the music and visit with friends without toiling in the kitchen.

We had about 63 attendees who enjoyed the festivities and wonderful music, again, presented by the Gilley Girls. These talented young ladies have grown musically to become recognized as 'up and coming' musicians with awards from Branson Missouri and we have been fortunate to enjoy their entertainment. This year, Alan Fry invited two Fresno State students from the FSU Packing club, Macy Myers, who is president and Mitch Parham who is VP. There are now 16 club members who plan to send two teams to Bishop Mule Days for 2023! It is so wonderful to have our youth participating in these awesome events.

2022's Top Hand award went to Jim Laber who works tirelessly putting together our fabulous newsletter every month along with donating so much time to the unit in other capacities as well. Congratulations Jim!

Thank you so much to Susan Hamar and Muriel Holland for creating the awesome table decorations, to those who donated to the silent auction and to all who volunteered behind the scenes to make the event so successful. Most of all, thank you to our party goers who made this delightful party such a fun time celebrating Christmas festivities together. It is because of all of you, BCHC-SJSU is such a great unit!

Jan Mikkelson







BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA

# HIGH COUNTRY MANNERS

## A COMMON SENSE GUIDE FOR GENTLE USE OF THE BACKCOUNTRY

### TRAILHEAD MANNERS

- Leave your vehicle parked with other visitors able to exit, park, load and unload around you.
- Be sure to lock your vehicle doors, camper shells and tool boxes.
- Clean up all food scraps. Bears will break into your vehicle, if they suspect it contains food.
- Do your part in keeping the trailhead clean and accessible to others. Bring a rake and shovel.
- Use proper sanitary facilities at the trailhead.



### TRAIL MANNERS

- Be polite and helpful when meeting livestock, backpackers, hikers, and other users of the wilderness.
- Always yield the trail to faster hikers or riders. Move aside as soon as you can and let them go on ahead.
- Common sense and courtesy should prevail in matters of right-of-way on the trail. In most cases, riders and pack animals do have the right-of-way. Those traveling uphill have the right-of-way over those going downhill.
- To ease possible congestion, avoid stopping in the trail at a creek or trail junction. Move to the next available place to pull out and get completely off the trail.
- Loose herded livestock are difficult to control and, in many places, illegal. It is wise to lead all your animals to minimize the chance for trail conflicts.
- Remove obstacles from trails whenever possible rather than riding around them, as this creates a secondary trail.
- Stay on the trail. Cutting switchbacks creates erosion.
- Explain to those not accustomed to stock that a hiker can control his/her movements on and off the trail easier than a rider can control the movements of a string of pack animals.
- Some horses and mules can be skittish while on the trail, therefore, it is wise to give them some room.
- Explain to those not accustomed to stock, that it is safer for you, them and the resource, to step to the downhill side of the trail and to stay in sight. Be sure the person feels safe before you start to pass.

- Explain to hikers that it would be helpful to speak in a calm voice to the animals as they pass, thus assuring the stock that the colorful hiker is not a bear. Remind them not to touch the animals as they go by and to please wait a few seconds before starting along the trail.
- Leaving any equipment in the middle of the trail, near a water crossing or bridge is like leaving your suitcase in the middle of the highway. Your equipment may get run over.
- Dogs can be good companions where permitted on the trail. Dogs not familiar with livestock can be intimidated and scare the stock. Remember to keep dogs under control at all times so they are not a threat to the safety of other visitors or to wildlife.
- An "encounter" session with local llamas and their handlers before you enter the backcountry might be worthwhile.



### CAMP MANNERS

- Set up camp on hard ground away from grass and marsh areas where you and your stock will appreciate being away from mosquitoes. Be sure the location is at least 100 feet from any water source.
- Proper sanitation practices are very important. Choose a site at least 100 feet away from any water source or campsite. Use a shovel or trowel to bury human waste.
- Choose a campsite that has plenty of feed or pack in pellets and grain.
- If you need to restrain the stock, tie to a high line located on durable ground, 100 feet away from any water source, and out of sight of other camps and trails.
- The use of a portable electric fence is encouraged as it is an excellent way to control grazing pack and saddle stock. It is important to train them to respect the wire or tape prior to setting up in the backcountry. Move the fence often to avoid excessive impact on the meadow.
- Use only dead and downed firewood for fuel. Conserve wood by using a propane or gas stove for cooking.
- Pack out all garbage and trash. This means food scraps too. Remember foil does not burn.
- Remove, scatter or bury all manure in the campsite and at the trailhead.



## PROPER PREPARATION

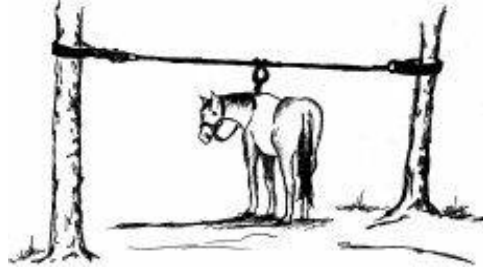
One of the most important aspects to consider when planning any trip is proper planning and preparation. This is especially true of backcountry trips. Try to be prepared for any eventuality.

- Consider the goals and needs of the group: scenery, lakes, fishing, moving camp, ages and experiences, etc.
- Know where you are going. Ask those who have been there before. Know how long it will take you to get to your destination each day of your trip.
- Know what maps you will need, study them and know how to use them. Have a compass along.
- Find out if you need to have a wilderness and/or campfire permit. Ask if there are any restricted areas you will be going through.
- Find out if you stay overnight at the trailhead. Learn what facilities are available: corrals, water, one night stay limit, manure dumps, etc.
- Know how many people are in your group and what kind of appetites/restrictions they may have.
- Determine if there is enough feed, water and proper campsite for each day's destination.
- Have first-aid kits for both people and animals, directions for use and a flashlight.
- Have at least one emergency light-weight meal along for the group.
- Be sure to have the appropriate clothing and equipment for the season.
- Have "strike anywhere matches" or a lighter in water-proof containers.

## A MESSAGE TO HORSEMEN FROM YOUR FOREST SERVICE



Horses, Mules, Burros and Llamas too!



- Take only the minimum number of animals needed.
- During short stops, you may tie horses to trees which are at least eight inches in diameter.
- For long periods, tie horses to a high-line stretched between two sturdy trees. A good rule of thumb is 7 feet away from tree and 7 feet high.
- If you picket horses, move them often.
- Keep tied, picketed, and hobbled horses well away from camp, lakes and streams.
- Tie, picket, or hobble horses only in dry areas to minimize trampling.

## WHO ARE THE BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA?

Backcountry Horsemen of California is a group of dedicated men and women working to preserve the historic use of trails with recreational pack and saddle stock. They perform public service activities for numerous land management agencies and they are continually working to educate their members on how to be "Gentle Users."

The use of livestock has played an important role in the American culture. California and the western states have particularly had a long tradition of using pack and saddle stock in the backcountry. The Backcountry Horsemen of California carry on this tradition in modern times. With this use comes the responsibility and obligation to care for our public lands and to ensure their use for generations.

Backcountry Horsemen of California works in cooperation with government agencies to help clear trails, maintain historic sites, construct new facilities, sponsor educational seminars and clinics, and assist with service projects as requested. They also strive to stay current on relevant issues and to provide input on management plans and activities that pertain to backcountry trails on public lands.

Backcountry Horsemen of California focuses its efforts in three key areas:

- Service Projects
- Education
- Public Lands Issues.



Approved for distribution by

**Backcountry Horsemen of California**  
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**[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@sebastiancorp.net](mailto:wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net)

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

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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

**1/4 Page Ad**

**\$20 per Month**

**AVAILABLE  
ADVERTISING  
SPACE**

## **"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  
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BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA

# A COMMON SENSE GUIDE FOR A Safe And Enjoyable Trail Ride

SAFETY is PRIORITY

## STAGING AREA

- ◆ Be on time and park considerably. Latecomers hold up everyone else.
- ◆ Tack up, bring halter with lead rope, water, lunch, jacket, or whatever else you need.
- ◆ Clean up manure, hay or litter in staging or camping area.
- ◆ Use ribbons to denote special situations: **red ribbon** if your stock tends to kick, **green ribbon** to signify a novice stock or rider, and a **blue ribbon** should be used to denote a stallion.
- ◆ Use of helmets is a personal choice of the rider.

## WHILE ON A TRAIL

- ◆ Trail boss is the boss. If you are riding in any way which the trail boss feels poses a danger to other riders, you will be asked to modify your behavior or leave the ride.
- ◆ Stay behind the trail leader (usually but not always the trail boss) and in front of the designated drag rider. If you are having problems call out for a stop.
- ◆ The use of a helmet is a personal safety choice of the rider.
- ◆ When mounting to ride, keep your horse still until everyone is mounted.
- ◆ You must have permission from the trail boss before bringing a dog or a stallion.
- ◆ Most Group rides are walk only, an exception would be bees, etc... but as needed, rides will be divided into the 'Slow Group' which walks only and the 'Fast Group' which includes gaited and endurance type horses. Ride in the group that fits your horse's type and conditioning.
- ◆ Please don't crowd the horse in front of you. Try to leave a horse length of open space between horses, even at stops. Be sure to ask riders in front and back of you about their animal's comfort level.
- ◆ Call back trail obstacles and/or low branches to riders behind you.
- ◆ Leave gates as you find them. When a rider dismounts to open a gate, at least a portion of the other riders wait until he/she has remounted before leaving.
- ◆ Crossing water, the first horses are allowed to drink, then move up the trail, stop! Allow more horses to drink. The group does not leave until all have watered.
- ◆ In difficult or steep terrain, allow more space and keep moving. If you need to stop for any reason, wait until the trail leader finds a suitable place where all can safely stop.
- ◆ Be courteous and friendly to other trail users. While passing - safety for all parties is the priority. Greet other users to initiate a conversation so the animals can identify a non-threatening situation. If possible, a hiker should step to the downhill side. This provides a safer passing for both hiker and stock.
- ◆ Stay on the trail; obey agency rules; respect private property.
- ◆ When riding along a road, ride with the traffic. When crossing roads, cross abreast rather than single file, post riders in front and post riders behind the group to alert traffic.
- ◆ Riding side by side is permissible when passing in the same or opposite direction, if the trail is wide enough, and all trail rules are observed.
- ◆ No smoking allowed on trails.

## TIPS FOR BREAKS OR LUNCH STOPS

- ◆ Water your stock during breaks or stops. Be cautious as to the amount of water given because some animals that are overheated can ty-up. Animals, while working, need as much as they will drink.
- ◆ Smoking is allowed during breaks in a safe area.
- ◆ Tie your horse safely. Loosen the cinch slightly during a long break. Do a safety check before remounting.
- ◆ When tying your horse, be sure there is ample room for other users to pass safely by your stock. Be sure you are not blocking the trail.
- ◆ If there is no garbage can, pack your trash out.
- ◆ Alcohol use can make riding dangerous, use discretion.
- ◆ The drag rider needs to remove trail flagging at the end of ride.



# SUNSHINE CORNER

Stay Safe Everyone  
and Happy Trails



## The Lighter Side

And that's why Shetland ponies never  
caught on in Wyoming!! 🐾



## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

2022

Brandy, Josiah and Brayden Robison, Toll House

Robert & Ashley Goodman, Fresno

Sara Quinn, Sanger

Lisa Sanli, Bakersfield

Todd Street, Bakersfield

Kurt Billingsly, Danville

Chris Dokendorf, Raymond

Robert & Ashley Goodman

Summer & Jake Price

Scott Long and Family

Leann Seroka

Alain & Danielle Jeschien

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# **WILDERNESS RIDER PROGRAM (Continued)**

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE WILDERNESS RIDER PROGRAM**

### ***Can a WR be removed from the program?***

·If there is a complaint, there is a WR Complaint Form, which is available and must be filled out within 3 months of the occurrence in question and returned to the WR Steering Committee for review and investigation. If the complaint is found accurate, the Steering Committee has the ability to find a solution to correct the problem or remove the WR from the program and have the badge and nameplate returned.

### ***How does a WR retire?***

·We ask the WR to serve for a minimum of three years. The WR may notify the State Education Chair of this decision and keep their vests, badge and nameplate.

### ***Factors for adaptation to the WR program?***

·The agencies or change in regulations may cause an adaptation to the program. Mother Nature may change things and there is the continual improvement to the Wilderness Rider Course.

### ***Other Questions?***

·Most other questions can be answered by reading the WR Code of Conduct and the FSM 1800—Senior, Youth and Volunteer Programs Chapter 1830. Both of these are available from any WR or the State Education Chair.

### ***Packer vs. Non-Packer History***

In 1998 the State Education Committee asked the question; Why are the WR's not required to be packers? At this time the Education Steering Committee did a few major research projects:

- 1) One project was the "Trail Rider" Program, which would include all who did not pack. We made a complete outline for that program to be taught. The challenge of this was availability of teachers, time factors and another host location, etc. The conclusion was to teach the Course half packers and half non-packers. Half would be known as WR and the others as TR but they BOTH had the LNT training.
- 2) We realized there were several challenges to this plan: a) We would need a definition of a "packer". The number of miles, years, experience, abilities, etc. b) We would need to "test" and authorize them as approved packers, where, when, etc. This would have to be accomplished before any of the interviews took place.
- 3) We talked to the agencies about another program. There was significant resistance from our agency contacts. The main reason being was that this other program would be doing the same thing: teaching GU/LNT. The cost and effort to maintain another program did not make sense and a lot of the WR already cover or could cover the areas that a TR program would cover --- we were trying to keep the quality high and the cost and effort to a minimum. It was also hard enough to educate their personnel with the one established program.

By 2001 we came up with these conclusions:

- 1) We would keep the WR as is. The applicants would be accepted by who was the most qualified. (Therefore no 1/2 packers and 1/2 non-packers)
- 2) Of course if you have more packing experience or more teaching experience you are more



qualified. This was approved by the BCHC Board of Directors in October 2001.

3) The state has never restricted our membership to ONLY packers. The state also realizes that many areas in California which do not have wilderness areas that allow for people to overnight and to use a pack animal. But the LNT message is the same.

4) Could we include a "packing " class in the course? No. Given the time constraints and already full curriculum, we have been limited in the past to a time during the course for introduction to packing skills and theory.

At Rendezvous 2007 a decision was made again:

The motion made at Rendezvous stated:

“Leave the Wilderness Rider Program as is with the caveat that all Wilderness Rider’s have packing ability within two years of completing the program”.

“Ability” was asked to be defined by the Education Steering Committee and the Wilderness Rider Steering Committee and was brought to the Directors at the ’07 Fall State meeting. The following was approved:

### ***Webster’s Dictionary***

**Ability:** being able, have talent, skills or aptitudes, capacity to do or act, competence in an activity because of one’s skill.

A Wilderness Rider will show ability by demonstrating in a satisfactory manner the following 5 Packing Skills.

1. Demonstrate the ability to properly saddle a pack animal.
  2. Demonstrate the ability to properly balance a load. (Note: the use of a spring scale or similar device is permitted)
  3. Demonstrate the ability to properly adjust packs on a pack animal.
  4. Demonstrate the ability to properly tie a hitch including the mante. (Note: the use of a reference manual is permitted)
  5. Demonstrate the ability to lead a pack animal, while mounted on a lead animal, through a designated course which will consist of both left and right turns, clock and counter clockwise circles, figure eights and navigating obstacles representing trees, logs, boulders or rocks.
- Those who successfully graduate from the Wilderness Rider Training Course may demonstrate the required

5 packing skills during the course or have two years to achieve the abilities listed by taking a packing course from a local college, a unit, a professional packer/pack station, from the “state course” when developed or other training venue.

Existing Wilderness Riders who consider themselves non-packers may utilize the same educational venues listed above.

A letter of achievement from one of the afore-mentioned courses will be accepted by the Wilderness Rider Steering Committee in lieu of a formal demonstration of the 5 packing abilities at an annual Rendezvous.

***BCHC will NOT certify members or non-members as packers***

# 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.

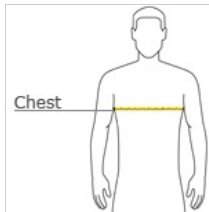
\_\_\_\_\_ X \$14.65 each \_\_\_\_\_  
(Qty) (Total)

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.

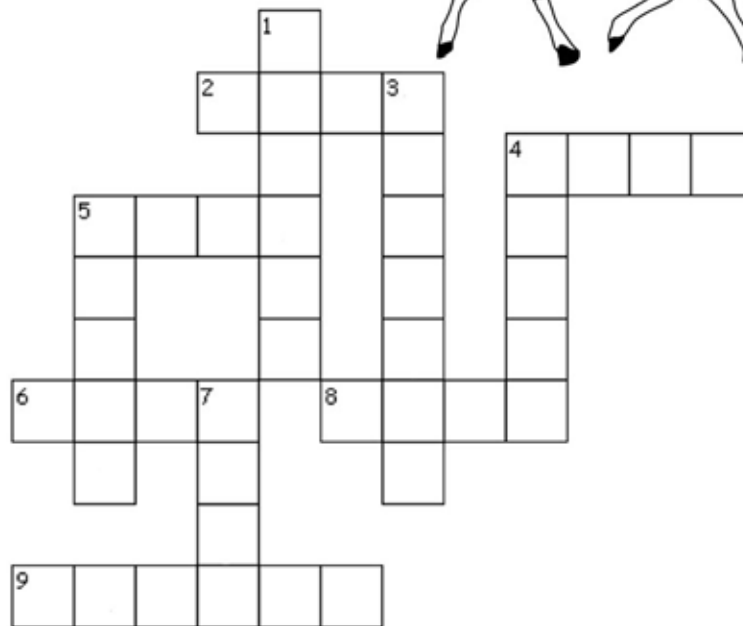
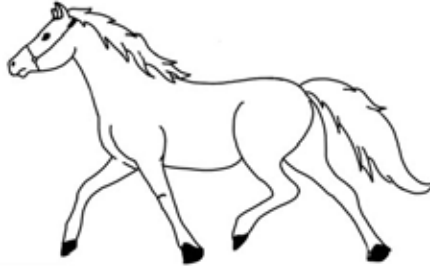
### SIZE CHART

	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

## KIDS CORNER

# HORSE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



### Across

2. a \_\_\_\_ is what the hair on a horse's head
4. \_\_\_\_ the curved covering of horn that protects toes of ungulate mammals, like horses.
5. a \_\_\_\_ is baby horse
6. a horse's walking manncer and pace
8. an adul female horse is called a \_\_\_\_
9. gallop and \_\_\_\_ are two terms associated with the gait of a horse

### Down

1. a horse's run is called a \_\_\_\_
3. a horse is an ungulate mammal, part of the taxonomic family \_\_\_\_
4. like most land animals, including humans, a \_\_\_\_ is a mammal
5. a horse belonging to a free roaming-herd is called a \_\_\_\_ horse
7. the everyday word for the funny and exaggerated way that a horse walks is called a \_\_\_\_



**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](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




## Big Meadows Horse Camp Sponsors



Your unit pays the cost of maintaining and hosting the Big Meadows horse camp. We are seeking sponsors (8) in total that will be exclusive to the Business/Industry type. Sponsorships are \$500 each per calendar year. Sponsors will be advertised on our web page, our facebook page, at the camp, and in our monthly newsletter. Please show your support to these sponsors. If you or someone you know would like to be a sponsor please contact Joe Kaminski at (559) 909-0505. If interested in being a camp host for this season, contact Jim Knabke at (559) 779-4715.




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**HIGH SIERRA UNIT**

**Dr. Karl J Pendegraft, DDS**  
 5415 w hillsdale vis 93291  
 559-733-1097

**Cathie Walker  
 Riddle Ranch**

**Available**

**Jesse & Cowboy**



**JOYCE AND MIC**

**Available**



***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.