

# SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA Hoof Prints

March 2022

Issue 45

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

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

**BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN**



**OF CALIFORNIA**

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

## Presidents Message



Hope everyone had great holidays. The calendar is starting to fill as is the list for host at Big Meadows. If you are interested in hosting Big Meadows please let Jim Knabke know as the calendar is filling fast.

Thanks to all our unit members who continue to make this such a great unit.

Hope to see you soon at one of the events. Thanks to all who continue to participate and those of you who continue to be part of our unit. Don't forget if you would like to sponsor a ride we would be glad to have your input.

*Remember to stay in the saddle. The ground is hard.*

Joe Kaminski  
President

## New Page

I am in the process of adding a new page to our web site. This was requested by one of our members. The page is called Local and Coastal Trails. This page will have information about trails that you might like to ride. It would be deeply appreciated if you have a favorite trail that you ride that you could submit the information along with some photos. Jim and Doug will also include the article in the newsletter. Here is the link to the page.

<http://www.bchcsjsu.org/local-and-coastal-trails.html>

### *Information that you can include:*

Directions, Parking/Size of rigs that can access/How many rigs, Cost, Trail condition, Who uses the trail, Best time to ride trail, Pictures of the area, Restrictions, Map of trail, Information submitted

by: \_\_\_\_\_

Any other information you feel is important.

Thank You. Hope to see a lot of trails submitted.

William Duane Peverill  
Web Wrangler  
[wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net](mailto:wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net)  
[www.bchcsjsu.org](http://www.bchcsjsu.org)

# **Backcountry Horsemen of California**

## **San Joaquin Sierra Unit**

### **Year End Report**

#### **Dec. 29, 2021**

2021 was once again plagued with cancellations due to Covid and fires. Our unit managed to have monthly board meetings, however some general meetings had to be canceled.

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. 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 15 miles of trail. Trees ranged in size from 1 inch to approximately 60 inches.

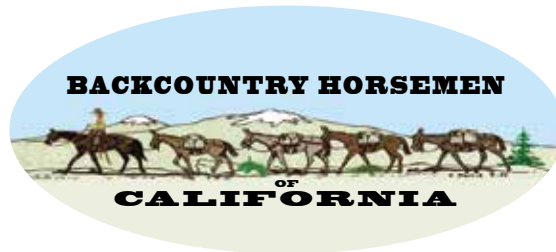
In July we sponsored a 4 day ride at Montana de Oro State Park. Aug. we sponsored a poker ride at Shaver Lake with approximately 38 participants. Our annual memorial ride had to be canceled due to fires.

Oct. we assisted the High Sierra unit with the rendezvous in Tulare. Our main emphasis was providing breakfast, lunch, and 2 dinners.

Nov. was our election ride and play day with about 20 participants.

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 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 Ruth Cramer.

Respectfully,  
Joe Kaminski  
President BCHC-SJSU



*San Joaquin Sierra Unit*

Board Meeting Dec. 7, 2021

Call to order: 6:30

Flag salute

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

Directors: Jim Laber, Doug Laber, Marcee Hansen, Sue Van Sickle, Past President Duane Peverill

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

**Correspondence:** \$50 donation in Fredi's memory for Memorial Ride.

**Committee reports:**

**Education:**

**Membership:**

**Newsletter:** Articles due Dec. 20. Jim and Doug to write Christmas Dinner article.

**Public lands:** High Sierra working on new camp at Mineral King.

**Sunshine:** cards have gone out.

**Shaver Lake:** Closed

**Big Meadows:** Closed

**OLD BUSINESS.** 1. Discussion on tentative rides. Jan. general meeting possibly Loni Langston. June 18 Poker Ride at Fishing Camp. Trail trials in August. July 14-18 MDO

2. EVENTS for 2022

Jan. 6-10 Montana de Oro. No charge for H.S day riders.

Feb. 17-20 Desert ride - bring your own water.

March 26-27 tentative Gorge - Marcee and Ruth. Work Fri., Ride Sat. Contact Summer. General meeting to be held

Apr - Parade Desensitize (Steve) maybe Apr. 16

May - Jose' Basin or Big Meadows

June - Edison work party

July - Montana de Oro

August -

Sept - Memorial Ride - TBA

Oct. - Election Ride

Nov. -

Dec. - Christmas dinner

3. Christmas Dinner - meet at 10 to decorate. 50-50 and raffle to be held.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Next meeting:** Jan. 4, 2021

**Adjorn:** 7:35 Sue 1st, Doug 2nd

# HENSLEY LAKE BUCK RIDGE

Moderate trail with some steep hills. Partial single track in places. Several off shoots to trail. Good 5 mile ride. Trail can be soft after rain. Limited rocks. Used by Hikers, Bikers, Fisherman and Equestrians. Frisbee Golf Course at beginning of trail. Dogs must be on leash at all times. Great winter ride. Summer is hot and there are rattlesnakes. Week days better for ride. Weekends busy Fees are paid at kiosk with credit card or debit. No cash.

Latitude

37° 7' 30.0000" N

Longitude

119° 52' 30.0000" W

From south of Fresno: Take State Route 99 to SR 41 north to SR 145. Turn left on 145 and go 8.4 miles to Road 33. Turn right on Road 33, and go 1 mile to Road 400. Turn right on 400, and go 9.7 miles to the Buck Ridge Recreation Area. Follow the signs to the campground and various areas within the park. From south of Madera: Take SR 99 north to exit 153B. Bear right onto Madera Ave. and go .3 miles to Gateway. Turn left and drive .2 miles to the traffic light at Yosemite Ave. (SR 145). Turn right and go 7.2 miles to Road 33. Turn left on Road 33, and go 1 mile to Road 400. Turn right on 400, and go 9.7 miles to the Buck Ridge Recreation Area. Follow the signs to the campground and various areas within the park. From north of Madera: Take SR 99 south to exit 153B. Exit onto Olive Ave. Turn left onto Madera Ave. and go .3 miles to Gateway. Turn left and drive .2 miles to the traffic light at Yosemite Ave. (SR 145). Turn right and go 7.2 miles to Road 33. Turn left on Road 33, and go 1 mile to Road 400. Turn right on 400, and go 9.7 miles to the Buck Ridge Recreation Area. Follow the signs to the campground and various areas within the park.



Kiosk Station



Trailer Parking



Restrooms



Hill



# 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

Feb 17-20	Laber Brothers Desert Ride
March 1	Board Meeting
March 25-27	Work Party Membership Ride San Joaquin River Gorge
April 5	Board Meeting
April 16	Desenitizing Luck of the Irish Ranch
April 23	Clovis Parade
May 3	Board Meeting
May 20-22	General Meeting Ride Jose Basin.
June 7	Board Meeting
June 18	Poker Ride Shaver Lake
June 24-30	Edison Work Party
July 5	Board Meeting
July 21-25	Montana de Oro Campout
Aug 2	Board Meeting
Aug 20-21	Trail Trial Info to follow
Sept 6	Board Meeting
Sept 10	Memorial Ride Big Meadows Horse Camp
Oct 4	Board Meeting
Oct	General Meeting/Elections and Ride
Oct 6-10	Coastal Mounted Unit MDO (non BCHCSJSU Event)
Nov 1	Board Meeting
Dec 6	Board Meeting
Dec 10	Christmas Dinner

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, [kaminskiclub@gmail.com](mailto:kaminskiclub@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 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.*

## **TARRAGON CHICKEN AND RICE SOUP**

*This soup always gets rave reviews. The tarragon gives it a special taste. Tastes great the next day for leftovers!*

### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 4 cups water, or as needed
- 1 tablespoon chicken soup base, or to taste
- 1 tablespoon dried tarragon
- 2 teaspoons dried basil
- ground black pepper to taste
- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- 1 cup long grain white rice
- 1 onion, diced
- 6 carrots, diced
- 6 stalks celery, diced
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped garlic



### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Fill a Dutch oven or stockpot about 3/4 full with water; mix chicken base, tarragon, basil, and black pepper into water and bring to a boil. Cook chicken in the boiling broth mixture until no longer pink in the center, 15 to 20 minutes. Remove chicken from broth, leaving broth in Dutch oven to simmer. Dice chicken and add it back to the simmering broth.
2. Mix rice, onion, carrot, celery, and garlic into simmering broth; cook until rice is tender and soup is thickened, 25 to 30 minutes. Add more water if needed.

# KIDS CORNER



BAREBACK  
EQUINE  
FARM  
FEED  
FOAL  
FODDER  
GAIT  
GALLOP  
GROOM  
HALTER  
HARNESS  
HOOF  
MANE  
MARE  
NECK  
NEIGH  
NOSE  
PACER  
PASTURE  
RACE  
RIDER  
ROPES  
SADDLE

## HORSES

### WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

P M P G Q O E E K M U R C R  
I H A O E R E D I R R M L G  
M I E R U K N F N A O A E N  
T R J T E E H E F O B C F S  
S T S P N D Q G R E A P S L  
E A V O A U W G I R E E B K  
P R S P I C S N X E N D C B  
O E Z N O G E Q E R N A H H  
R D E F L L R R A C B O N A  
H D O N O U L H O E K E P L  
O O R H A A E A R Z S I R T  
N F O A B M L A G T T P B E  
W V V F Y E B S A D D L E R

The words appear UP, DOWN, BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY.  
Find and circle each word.



## STARLIGHT RANCH CAMP OUT

It all started Feb 17 as we left Fresno to travel to a place we have never been before. Starlight Ranch is located between Tehachapi and Rosamond California. Twenty plus miles from civilization. Pat was real hesitant about going to the desert. As always when traveling to a unknown place you have all kinds of things going through your mind. Will I get lost, what kind of roads and what kind of weather conditions. It all worked out. Weather was great, roads even though they are called streets and avenues they are all dirt roads and many have washboard surface. Great for mixing up your holding tank! As for getting lost....not a problem. The Laber Brothers Jim and Doug had the roads and turns posted with BCHCSJSU signs so it made it very easy to find Starlight Ranch.

Upon arriving at the ranch we were pleasantly surprised to see the ranch. It is fenced all the way around and has a very nice housing facility. Plenty of parking for large rigs and place to put up portable pens along with some hi line abilities.

The brothers made us feel very welcome when we arrived and helped get us situated. That evening Jim and Doug wanted to go into Rosamond to their favorite Mexican restaurant, Roberto's. The food was outstanding. Upon arriving back at the ranch we built a campfire in a pit that was unbelievable. One of the best pits I have ever seen. We did need a big campfire because the evenings were cold. Mules water froze over at night.

In the morning the brothers had breakfast ready. While waiting for the Kaminskis to show up we decided to take a short ride of six miles to Bean Canyon. Back at the ranch we waited for Joe and Carol to show up.....but they had not arrived for some reason. So we took off on another short ride and came across them on the road. Go figure, someone had changed one of the signs at the Smiley Rock and they took the wrong turn. Joe being a great driver was able to get his rig turned around and located the correct road.

Dinner which again was furnished by the brothers along with items brought by Pat and Carol was great. The evening was spent sitting around the fire pit enjoying each others conversation and partaking of your favorite beverage. One thing about an BCHCSJSU event we eat good and if you go away hungry it is your own fault.

Saturday morning breakfast was served by the Laber's and we all saddled up for a great ride. The ride was a little over six miles. Would have been longer but at the top of the ridge it got pretty windy so we headed back down and over some lower trails. Jim and Doug were great trail bosses and took us by some very interesting places. Arriving back at the ranch Jim's brother in law Arlen and friend Glenn from Visalia showed up to ride their trail bikes. We were also joined by Jerry and his son from Tehachapi. Wayne, which is a permanent resident of the desert came by to check on the ranch.

The Laber's and Peverill's took an afternoon ride for 6 miles and returned in time for dinner. Food furnished by the Laber's. Saturday evening spent by fire pit and just relaxing. It is a very peaceful and relaxing place. If you missed this ride you really missed out. We originally had 9 riders but 3 had to back out.

The Laber's will be holding another ride in the future so keep your eyes open and be sure to sign up. Sunday morning we all packed up and headed home while the brothers took one last ride. Pat is usually ready to head home after a camping event.....But she enjoyed this ride/outing so much that she didn't want to go home. Looking forward to next ride. Laber's were fantastic host and made everyone feel welcome.







# EQUESTRIAN SAFETY GEAR

## THE CHP HIGHLIGHTS CHANGES TO STATE'S TRAFFIC SAFETY LAWS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – As we head into the new year, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) is educating the public on traffic safety laws that were passed during this year's legislative season and signed by Governor Gavin Newsom. The laws take effect January 1, 2022, unless otherwise noted.

**Sideshow Definition and Penalties (Assembly Bill (AB) 3, Fong):** This new law strengthens penalties for those convicted of exhibition of speed if the violation occurred as part of a sideshow.

Beginning July 1, 2025, a court will be permitted to suspend a person's driver's license between 90 days and six months if the person is convicted of exhibition of speed and if the violation occurred as part of a "sideshow." Section 23109(c) of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) (exhibition of speed) will define sideshow as an event in which two or more persons block or impede traffic on a highway for the purpose of performing motor vehicle stunts, motor vehicle speed contests, motor vehicle exhibitions of speed, or reckless driving for spectators.

The courts will be required to consider a defendant's medical, personal, or family hardship that requires a person to have a driver's license before determining whether to suspend a person's driver's license.

**Equestrian Safety Gear (AB 974, L. Rivas):** Requires a person under the age of 18 to wear a properly fitted and fastened helmet when riding an equestrian animal, such as a horse, mule, or donkey on a paved highway. This bill also requires all riders or their equines to wear reflective gear or a lamp when riding after sundown.

A person riding an equestrian animal in a parade or festival, or crossing a paved highway from an unpaved highway, is exempt from all helmet,

lighting, or reflective gear requirements.

**Tribal Emergency Vehicles (AB 798, Ramos):** This bill provides that any vehicle owned or operated by a federally recognized Indian tribe is considered an authorized emergency vehicle as defined by Section 165 CVC when responding to an emergency, fire, ambulance, or lifesaving calls.

**Class C Drivers Allowed to Tow Trailer (Senate Bill 287, Grove):** Effective January 1, 2027, drivers with a class C driver's license may operate a vehicle towing a trailer between 10,001 pounds and 15,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating, or gross vehicle weight with a fifth-wheel and kingpin or bed mounted gooseneck connection, provided that the trailer is used exclusively for recreational purposes for the transportation of property, living space, or both.

The driver will be required to pass a specialized written examination demonstrating the knowledge of the CVC and other safety aspects relating to the towing of recreational vehicles on the highway and possess an endorsement on their class C driver's license.

Currently, this exemption is in place for drivers towing a fifth-wheel travel trailer provided the driver passes a specialized written exam and obtains a recreational trailer endorsement.

As a reminder, the following law took effect on July 1, 2021:

**License Points for Distracted Driving (AB 47, Daly; 2019):** Using a handheld cell phone while driving is currently punishable by a fine. As of July 1, 2021, violating the hands-free law for a second time within 36 months of a prior conviction for the same offense will result in a point being added to a driver's record. This applies to the violations of talking or texting while driving (except for hands-free use) and to any use of these devices while driving by a person under 18 years of age.

The mission of the CHP is to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security.

# SUNSHINE CORNER

Stay Safe Everyone  
and Happy Trails



## The Lighter Side

What did the mother horse say to her foal?  
*It's pasture bed time!*

Why do most horses look so fit?  
*Because they're on a stable diet.*

How much money does a bronco have?  
*A buck.*

What makes a horse sneeze? *Hay fever.*

What kind of horse travels all around the world?  
*A globe trotter.*

What kind of food do race horses like to eat?  
*Fast food.*

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

April 2021

Eric, Daphne, Angela Person, Clovis

May 2021

Cathy Albertson, Fresno

August 2021

Janet Smith, Clovis  
Sonya Onorati Prys, Lemoore

September, 2021

Julie Vogt, Visalia  
Joe Machado, North Fork

March, 2022

Sue Buckley

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# SENIOR TRAIL BUDDIES

Marcee Hansen

On a beautiful Spring morning Vicky, Kathy, and I met up to ride one of our favorite trails. The trail follows the San Joaquin River for about 16 miles. The plan was to ride about 5 miles out, have lunch at a cattle trough, and then head back to play in the water near the trail head. We have all ridden that trail so many times on the same horses that we could “ride it with our eyes closed”. We have known each other for about 9 years and haven’t been able to ride that trail all together in a few years. We were all excited. Yet, that time it was a little different. One of us seemed to have forgotten how to tack completely or properly. One of us had difficulty staying focused. Life had happened. Yet we just keep going. Right? What do we do when we notice differences with our riding buddies that are safety concerns? How do you even recognize the differences? How do you address these issues with your trail buddies?

The 3 of us have ridden most of our lives. Here is a little background on us. I’ll start with Vicky. She started with lessons at a boarding stable on a leased horse. She had the opportunity to ride a few different horses at various levels of training. When she was 16, she was able to buy her own Arabian gelding and train him herself. After we had met she had picked up a problem horse and few feral horses. She was able to sell 2 of them in the end as good trail horses. The feral 10 year old stallion proved very difficult, yet she got him rideable. Most of her riding was in an arena to start her horses. Then out to the trail they went. She was a young, capable, gutsy rider who loved trails. She wasn’t worried about speed either. You could often find her trotting some of the scariest trails in the front and back country. Her dreams were to ride 50 to 100 mile Endurance races. Vicky passed that dream on to me. I don’t ride one discipline. I just RIDE. I like to tell people, “I was the only horse person in my family and grew up on horses unsupervised.” I have very little formal training and not much fear. I was given green broke horses when I was a kid. I often left home when the sun came up and returned when the sun set. I rode bareback at full speed. I rode 6 plus miles to schoolmate’s houses during school vacations and in the middle of the night. At home, I barrel raced, jumped a 4 ½ foot jump, played chase (on horseback) around the barn. I even tied a Big Wheel to my filly and whipped my sister around the pasture until she went flying. . . See? Unsupervised. After a 12 year family break and many horses later, I’m in my early 50’s and I still want to ride hard, but smarter. Kathy had a horse family. She grew up on horses also. Her Father roped competitively and helped with cattle on occasion. Her Mother enjoyed riding, but mostly raised the kids when not working. Kathy mainly rode ex rope horses. She got to attend many play days. She also rode in many of the local parades. Most of her riding was in the arena and out the back gate. She lived in the desert and rode for miles with her siblings. Sometimes she had to ride the not so nice broke horses and she would make it work. She told me, “I always got back on the horse”. When she married, her horse life stopped until she was blessed with a granddaughter that wanted to ride. She bought 2 horses, a mare for her granddaughter and a spectacular gelding for herself. Her horse life is full again. When we met I took her to all the

trails, ranches, and camping. She also competed in a LD endurance race. Riding over 60 is still second nature for her. Let me say this first. As experienced as we think we are, we will never know everything. So as you have read, we all have years of riding experience. Jumping on our regular horses for a ride is a piece of cake. Yet, as we age, things change. We tend to rely on muscle memory, because of arthritic pain. We depend on our predictable partner so we can live out childhood dreams which can now be achieved with our adult freedom. We don’t say it won’t happen to me, but we don’t worry about either. We tend not to notice the little things anymore as being a big issue, because we have seen so much. In addition to normalcies of age, we may have had illnesses that have affected our ability to think sharply. Or possibly, healed injuries that limit our mobility. Our disabilities aren’t really noticeable to our friends. This is when our older riding buddies need our younger riding buddies. It’s a fine line that may need to be crossed to keep each other safe. There are subtle things to be aware of in your older riding buddies. These buddies are not too old to ride. They are respectable equestrians. Able-bodied riders can usually ride years beyond driving a car. They just need a caring watchful eye. Listen to what your friends tell you about what is happening in their lives. It may give you a clue as to what you may need to be aware of. Make sure you are able to hear your friend as they are handling their horse on the ground. If they have let you know about their difficulties. Make sure to make a friendly check and ask if they need help with lifting the saddle on their horse. Or holding their horse while they are mounting. The question will come to you if you see an action that may be challenging due to what life has thrown their way. Just ask. They will appreciate it. I always take a quick note of the finished tacked horse and rider before we head out to trail. Many times I have noticed the cinch looser than normal, or that the throat latch was not fastened, or the breast collar is not attached to the cinch. Maybe the headstall is not on one of the ears, the reins may be crossed or attached to the wrong part of the bit, or worse, the bit is behind the chin. There are so many things that we may not do properly when we are older or distracted.

When you are on the trail, take a peek at your friend again. Are they sitting the way they have always done on previous rides. Are they riding their horse or are they passengers. Have you noticed if they are paying attention to the trail or do they seem to be constantly fiddling with bags or clothing? You may think this is not necessary. It is. Most of the time we do this anyway with our friends. So it’s pretty easy to just take a second look just for safety. Be aware of the horse that they are riding. Is it a newer horse to them? What stage of training is their horse? What is their experience with horses?

If you have been a mentor to your friend and they have depended on you and/or your knowledge, you have a responsibility to help keep them safe. They depend on your opinion. If something needs to be said, say it. In the horse world there are many different opinions. There are also many correct ways to work with horses. So when you see a friend is not acting true to their nature, take that next step. The regret of not mentioning a concern is not worth the fear of being taken as disrespectful or bossy. Your friends know you for the most part. If you have to stumble around your words-stumble. Just say it. One day you will be in the same situation and you will be happy that your younger friend was there for you.



[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)

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## 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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## "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)

# SHARING OUR TRAILS – A GUIDE TO TRAIL SAFETY AND ENJOYMENT

Responsible trail enthusiasts, both motorized and non-motorized, have much in common. They have an appreciation for our public lands and want to enjoy what our public lands have to offer.

In many parts of the country trails are open to and shared by equestrians, OHV riders, bicycle riders, runners and hikers. Trail sharing can and does work when people respect each other and work cooperatively to keep each other safe.

While it is important for people to respect each other on the trail, it is important to remember that equestrians are dealing not only with other trail enthusiasts' personalities, they also are working with horses whose temperaments are as individual as our own. Horses' natural instincts can influence their behaviors and affect the way they react to circumstances encountered on the trail.

For these reasons, it is important that equestrians know their horses well enough that they are confident that they will be able to control their horses when they encounter other trail enthusiasts who are allowed on the trail.

Conversely, OHV riders, bicycle riders, runners and hikers must understand that "equestrian only" trails must be respected for the safety of both the horse and rider. These trails offer the opportunity for horsemen to acclimate their horses to basic trail conditions without encountering "unknown threats" that can trigger the horse's natural instinct of flight.

When young or inexperienced horses encounter new conditions on the trail like OHVs, bicycles, runners and hikers, and even certain scents, the flight response can end with disastrous results for the horse or rider.

When equestrians on well-trained horses and other responsible trail enthusiasts meet each other on the trail the encounters can be enjoyable social exchanges if the groups understand how to work together to keep the encounters safe.

These basic guidelines will help ensure that meeting on the trail will be a safe and enjoyable experience:

## ***Guidelines for all trail enthusiasts:***

### ***Common Courtesy***

- Respect all trail restrictions and use only trails open to your mode of transportation.
- Be considerate of others on the road or trail.
- When traveling on shared use trails, continually watch for other types of recreationists.
- Slow down when sight lines are poor.
- Keep speeds low around other recreationists.
- Keep noise and dust down.
- Keep your ears open – no ear buds for an iPod or MP3. Listening to headphones or ear buds can make it difficult to hear and communicate with other recreationists. In some areas it is illegal to operate vehicles or bikes with both ears covered.
- Keep pets under control. Some trails require dogs to be leashed. Be familiar with local rules.

### ***Yielding***

- Yield the right of way to those passing you from behind or traveling uphill.
- Motorized vehicles yield to mountain bikes, runners, hikers, and horses.
- Mountain bikes yield to runners, hikers and horses.

- Runners and hikers yield to horses.

### ***Guidelines for equestrians on shared trails:***

- Be sure you can control your horse and it has been exposed to other trail recreational uses before riding on shared use trails.
- Cooperate with local OHV and bicycle riders to expose your horse to vehicles in a gradual manner in a safe environment.
- Be alert and aware of the presence of other trail enthusiasts. If possible, pull to the side of the trail when you hear oncoming OHVs or bicycles.
- At trailheads or staging areas, park vehicles and secure stock in a manner that provides a safe

- distance between the horses and passing traffic.
- Be prepared to let other trail enthusiasts know what needs to be done to keep you, the horse, and other trail enthusiasts safe when you meet on the trail.
  - Less experienced horses and riders should ride behind more “trail-wise” horses and riders.
  - If you are “ponying” a horse, go slow and never take a loose horse on the trail.

***Guidelines for OHV riders when encountering horses on the trail:***

- Pull to the side of the trail far enough for horses to pass safely as soon as you see horses.
- Pull to the downhill side of the trail if possible since horses tend to perceive unknown threats on the uphill side as predators.
- Shut off your motor as soon as possible and remove your helmet. The horse will be more likely to recognize you as a human.
- Speak to the oncoming rider and horse in a friendly, relaxed tone.
- Horsemen may pull to the side of the trail a safe distance if they hear an OHV approaching but this does not necessarily mean it is safe for you to ride by. Stop and wait for instructions from the horseman.
- Ask the horseman how he/she would like to proceed.
- The horseman will know his/her horse and how the horse reacts to other trail enthusiasts.
- The horseman may ask you to stay put and ride past you.
- The horseman may ride to the side of the trail and ask you to ride or push past them. If you ride by a horse, keep your rpm's low and steady and your sound as low as possible. Sudden movements or sounds can startle horses. Be alert – be aware and on guard for oncoming traffic.

***Guidelines for bicyclists when encountering horses on the trail:***

- Pull to the side of the trail far enough for horses to pass safely as soon as you see horses.
- Pull to the downhill side of the trail if possible since horses tend to perceive unknown threats on the uphill side as predators.

- Speak to the oncoming rider and horse in a friendly, relaxed tone. Remove your helmet if it conceals part of your face. The horse will be more likely to recognize you as a human.
- Horsemen may pull to the side of the trail a safe distance if they hear a bicycle approaching but this does not necessarily mean it is safe for you to ride by. Stop and wait for instructions from the horseman.
- Ask the horseman how he/she would like to proceed.
- The horseman will know his/her horse and how the horse reacts to other trail enthusiasts.
- The horseman may ask you to stay put and ride past you.
- The horseman may ride to the side of the trail and ask you to ride or push past them.
- If you ride by a horse, do so at a slow, steady pace and avoid making any sudden movements or sounds that might startle the horse.
- Be alert – be aware and on guard for oncoming traffic.

***Guidelines for other non-motorized recreationists when encountering horses on the trail:***

- Hikers and trail runners should always stop and step to the side of the trail when they meet horses on the trail.
- Step to the down-hill side of the trail.
- Speak to the rider and horse in a friendly, relaxed tone.
- Keep pets under control.

SHARING OUR TRAILS – A GUIDE TO TRAIL SAFETY AND ENJOYMENT (ca.gov)

## **2021 OFFICERS/DIRECTORS**

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# 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.

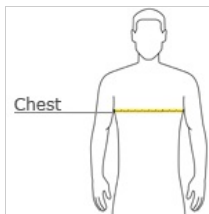
\_\_\_\_\_ X \$14.65 each \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Qty) (Total)

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

# MONTANA DE ORO CAMPOUT AND RIDE



Jan 13 -17 found 12 of your fellow members and their stock camping and corralled at Montana De Oro Equestrian camp in Los Osos just south of Morro Bay. We enjoyed good fellowship, great weather and some great rides on the beach and in the hills. Some of us enjoyed a meal together at the Pines Resort and if you have not eaten there it is a best kept secret. We had a potluck dinner Saturday night and we didn't leave hungry. We have another reservation for the camp in July 21-25, so if you missed this one here is your chance to go again this year.







# WILDERNESS FIRST AID (WFA) + SURVIVAL

[www.survivalmedonline.org/wilderness-first-aid](http://www.survivalmedonline.org/wilderness-first-aid)

**\$35**

Taught over ZOOM, or watch a recording.

*Upcoming State-Specific courses: Arizona, Colorado, and California*

## Hands-On Instruction:

- Basic Life Support and patient assessment
- Dressing wounds, stopping bleeding, and tying tourniquets
- Creating splints and assessing for bone breaks
- Hypothermia wraps
- Improvised neck braces for spinal injuries

## Interactive Medical and Survival Scenarios:

- Bears, Mountain Lions, Snakes, Scorpions, and animals specific to certain regions
- Lightning and temperature extremes
- Flash floods and canyoneering
- Altitude illness, Frostbite, Trench Foot, and Environmental Medicine
- Anaphylaxis and using an Epi Pen
- Drowning rescues
- Communicable diseases
- Getting Lost and Rescue Signaling
- Finding appropriate water and treating it
- Medicolegal topics and liability

## Materials

If you'd like to participate in the hands-on activities, you should bring the following materials to the course:



Sleeping Bag



Tarp or Blanket



ACE Bandage or  
other cloth wrap



Flexible splint  
or rolled up



Branch or  
Ski pole



Sweatshirt or  
jacket

Course includes textbook and 30 additional hours of wilderness medicine podcasts (optional).

To earn the Wilderness First Aid (WFA) certification, you can take a short exam after the attending the course or watching a recording, included in the cost. No prior medical training is needed.

When you sign up, you will receive the Zoom links for all of the available dates. You can attend as many as you'd like, but you only need to do one. You can attend either the standard course or a state-specific one. If you would rather watch a recording, you can do so right away. The recordings are available immediately upon enrollment and can also be viewed to earn the certificate. You can watch any recordings as many times as you want, and you will have continuous access to all of this.

## Available Dates for Standard Course:

• March 1, 6-8 pm Mountain Time • March 8, 6-8 pm Mountain Time • March 22, 6-8 pm Mountain Time

## California Special Event Date:

California- March 26 (2-4 pm Mountain Time)

This course is open to all, but will focus on the environment, animals, injuries, and problems specific to CA. The recording is already available.



# *Black Bear Essentials to Remember*

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

**Y**ou Must Be Alert

**P**lease Do Not Surprise Me

**Y**ou 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.

**A**void a Confrontation

Separate cooking and sleeping areas

Store food and garbage properly

Keep a clean camp site

**A**void 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

**R**emember: 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



The content of this written material has been officially approved for distribution by  
Backcountry Horsemen of California 13061 Rosedale Hwy., Suite G Box 217, Bakersfield, Ca. 93314  
www.bchcalifornia.org 4/11

**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



# 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**

---

**Clark's Leather Shop**  
 559-999-9861

**Jesse & Cowboy**

**Available**

**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.