



BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN

KERN SIERRA UNIT NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2018

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hi everyone,

It's back to work time after taking the summer off. We have several events coming up from now to the end of the year. We would love to have you join us in any or all of them.

Our Annual Fall Poker Ride Fundraiser is going to be set for Saturday October 27th. We're staging out of Robertson's Stables this year in Bakersfield with a BBQ lunch and poker hand winners announced following the ride. If you can't ride for some reason you are welcome to come join us for a good visit, yummy lunch and buy a poker hand or two, or three! Look for the ride flyer elsewhere in the Newsletter. Get your signup forms in early for the ride of lunch reservations so we will be able to shop for groceries.

Kern Sierra's storage Unit has been moved from its long time home at Bakersfield Veterinary Hospital. Lynn Joiner very graciously allowed us to move it to her place where we know it will be safe and rent is free. Thanks Lynn. We are going to gather at her place on November 10th for a repair and paint day for our iron mules, (hold pack saddles for demonstrations), as well as any other equipment that might need a little touching up. We will also be making up an inventory log of all equipment and public relations items that we have. If any of you members out there just might have something that you borrowed or just happened to end up with after one of our events please bring it out to Lynn's so we can get on our inventory list and put in the Unit's storage container before or on the 10th. Besides a fun work day we will have a potluck and some good visiting time. More details will be posted on our fb page and website when the time gets closer. All members are welcome to come join us.

December will be here before you know it so don't forget to mark the first Monday the 3rd on your calendar for our Annual Christmas Dinner Meeting at the Woolgrowers.

We will be filling one or possibly two Board member spots at the end of the year so if anyone is interested in becoming a Board Member please let me know. We have ever ongoing challenges to help grow membership in our KS Unit and for BCHC as well as gaining more support for BCHA to be able to support backcountry trail rights for livestock users both in our local mountain wilderness and national levels. One of our biggest challenges right now is the encroachment of mountain bikers on all the trails and now attempting to gain access to the Wilderness trails. If you are interested in giving time and thought our cause we would be very interested in hearing from you.

Please try to join us in some or all of our upcoming events. Let us know what you as members are interested and join in to make it happen!! We're open to your idea and even more your help to make them reality.

Hope to see you at one of your unit's events.

Sincerely your President,

Sylvia Chavez

MONUMENT VALLEY 2018

Submitted by Steve Cozzetto

In May, Mallory and I spent a week in Monument Valley riding with the Navajos on the reservation. Monument Valley is a familiar landscape as many movies have been filmed there. However much of the reservation off limits to the casual tourist unless escorted by the Navajos.

Our group camped in a remote box canyon under sheer red cliffs several hundred feet high with horse troughs and corrals. Most of the rides were between 5-6 hours. In addition to the spectacular landscapes we saw petroglyphs, movie locations, and stone caches where the ancient Indians stored their corn and other food stuffs. We saw several ancient burial hogans where the Navajos buried their dead, including one where our guide's the great great grandmother who was captured and escaped from the army

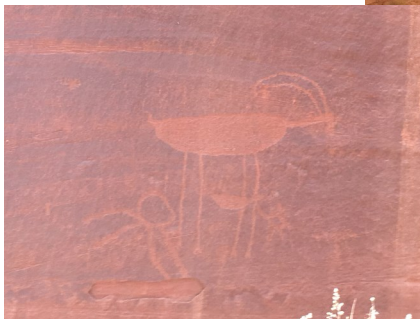
twice of our was buried. On the rides our guides would play flutes and tell stories at the rest stops. The terrain was fascinating in that many times you would think you were at the end of a box canyon only to go around a boulder or juniper tree and enter a narrow slot canyon that would lead us to other large and twisted box canyons that went on for miles. On one day we took a 9 hour round trip ride to ancient Anasazi cliff dwellings. Because the place is so difficult to get to and receives so few visitors you can hike right up to the cliff dwellings and explore them. There were pottery shards and mortar and pestles scattered about.

At night, our guide and some of her friends and family would come to our camp and sing and tell stories. One night some kids from the reservation high school came by and danced in full costume for us. They were very polite and proud to represent their culture at various pow-wow competitions. We also visited our guide's hogan where we were treated to demonstrations wool weaving and the traditions involved in creating blankets. Of course they weren't opposed to selling their goods.

You can bring your own stock but they need to be in shape

as the rides were fairly long , warm and consisted mostly of deep sand or rocks and there isn't any water on the trail or you can rent horses there.

If you are interested in going on these rides you can go to www.monumentvalleytrailrides.com for more information.



CONTACT US!

President: Sylvia Chavez 661-549-8811 cowsnhorses02@yahoo.com

Vice President: Tammy Bozarth 661-322-2545 spashiners@yahoo.com

Secretary: Patty Montoya 661-201-0298 kernriverrider@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Robert Anderson 661-978-9630 lazya01@yahoo.com

Education: Tammy Bozarth 661-322-2545 spashiners@yahoo.com

Membership: Pat Mumford 661-332-8332 pmmumford@sbcglobal.net

Public Lands: Steve Cozzetto 661-248-6836 steve@centuryrubber.com

VISIT OUR WEBSITE! www.bchckernsierra.com

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BCHC Kern Sierra

GREY MEADOW 2018

Submitted by Lynn Joiner

We were a small but mighty crew! Cheryl Reese, Bonnie Searcy and I rode in on Wednesday, August 22nd. We worked on the Clicks Creek Trail on Thursday, clearing several trees. We got back to camp late afternoon. Steve Cozzetto and Robert Anderson were due in any time. By 5:30 P.M. we had given up on them and I started making dinner. We were just finishing up our dinner at about 6:15 P.M. and here they came riding in!! We quickly went out and helped them unpack. They had had a few problems and ended up running late. Roberts poor little mule was wearing his pack around his ears when they arrived! I quickly fixed them dinner and we sat around the table and played a game of Mexican Train. We were in bed by nine!



Robert Anderson and Steve Cozzetto heading back from the Grey Meadow work project and watering their stock in Clicks Creek

Next morning we had breakfast and headed out to do some trail work. We broke up into two crews and started lopping. We lopped about three fourths of the Clicks Creek Trail and then headed back to camp.

We had a nice dinner and managed to beat off the meat bees that were determined to eat out pork chops! The rest of the evening we sat around the fire and visited.

Saturday morning we had breakfast and Bonny and I packed up and rode out. Cheryl, Steve and Robert rode to Tamarack and several other spots on the north side of the Little Kern. They had a nice day exploring and trying to find trails, most of which were badly in need of work.

We had a great trip! We made some good memories and accomplished our task of clearing a good part of Clicks Creek Trail! I so appreciate everyone's hard work and great attitude!

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

June 4, 2018 at Rusty's Pizza, Coffee Road

- I. The meeting was called to order by President Sylvia Chavez at 6:42 PM.
- II. The following Directors were present: Lynn Joiner, Tammy Bozarth, Steve Cozzetto, Mari James, Rob Anderson, Peggy Whitaker, Renee Williams, Kathy Ervin and Sylvia Chavez.
- III. Lynn moved that we approve the minutes of the previous meeting,, Kathy seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- IV. President's Report: Sylvia discussed HSSUA and encouraged us to work on membership.
- V. The Treasurer's Report was approved on a motion by Lynn and a second by Peggy.
 - a. Committee Reports
 - b. Education: Tammy reported that she a a group had our booth at the Midnight Puitt Rodeo.
 - c. Pat Mumford reported by phone that our membership is 88. She also stated that Carmen would like submissions for the newsletter. Tammy stated that we have new member folders National, State and Local newsletters and a CD.
 - d. Pat stated that the website is updated monthly.
- VI. Announcements
- VII. Lynn will chair a Work Party in August.
- VIII. The Fall Ride is tentatively scheduled for October 20th at Red Rock Canyon State Park. Steve is the ride chairman and he needs volunteers to help with the signup table, lunch and poker hands and advertising.
- IX. Our next meeting will be on September 13th at Lynn Joiner's home.
- X. Our guest speaker for the evening was Dr. Mylon Filkins.
- XI. Lynn moved and Peggy seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 P.M. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynn Joiner, Acting Secretary

THANK YOU LETTER FROM BCHC INTERNSHIP RECIPIENT

Submitted by Bob Magee

Backcountry Horsemen of California (BCHC) made the decision to sponsor an intern to spend the summer with the Forest Service's Region 5 Pack Stock Center of Excellence. This was the first time many of the units in BCHC worked together to contribute to sponsor an intern at the Center of Excellence. The person selected for the intern position was Kristianne Morrison. Everyone Kristianne worked with was very impressed with how well she did in the intern program. Below you will find a report written by Kristianne on her experience in the program this past summer.

BCHC Internship Inyo National Forest

By Kristianne Morrison

I want to begin this article by giving a huge thank you to Backcountry Horseman of California, Backcountry Horseman of America and all the members who made this opportunity possible. A thank you to Agnes of the Eastern Sierra Conservation Core for making it all come together. Also, to Lee Roeser and Michael Morse from the Inyo National Forest for being the most outstanding mentors I have had. This internship was an amazing experience and I wouldn't trade it for the world. I learned so many valuable things that won't be forgotten. Not only did I learn about pack stock, I also learned more about myself as well, they pushed me to become better every day. The first week I spent on the job I attended a Wilderness Academy that showed me the ways to use and handle a crosscut saw and axe. My instructors also were members of Backcountry Horseman, Michael Lewis and Jack Peckham. They certified my crosscut training so I could use it on the trails. Bill Carter from BCHC took me out on the trails on my second week to clear down trees on the PCT. We also used rock bars and mcleods to rebuild some washed out trails making it stable enough for the stock to cross.

While working with the Center Of Excellence, I helped resupply many trail crews throughout the summer including the California Conservation Corps, American Conservation Experience, and the Eastern Sierra Conservation Corps. We packed out supplies to the trail crews every week. A normal day was picking up the food order, checking every single item, refilling propane tanks, and building the loads for the resupply heading out the following day. We packed in everything from eggs to a 50 gallon jungle can used for warming water. Also packed in their camp for 20 people, with tools and camp gear when it began. When building the loads I learned how to pack items efficiently according to size and weight. The most important detail is to make sure the load is rattle proof. When we packed out, we also had trash and other items to bring out with us after the resupply. It was a great learning how to get the loads even without a scale, my human scale, my arms were pretty accurate by the end of the season.

I've learned so much about trail work and different tools and methods to repair a variety of trails. A very important skill I learned was how to evaluate the trail to make sure it was safe and secure for riders and pack stock. I had the experience of crosscutting down trees, rock work, and building checks and water bars. I never knew how much work went into the trails we love so much until this summer, a lot of hard work is put into it. I was very happy to be a part of it, and I will carry on helping to maintain trails for all to enjoy. Michael has educated me so much on how the Forest Service protects and keeps our Wilderness thriving. I was also able to see firsthand how the pack stock helps during a fire.

Michael and Lee run such a clean as well as organized operation from the hay, to the tack that goes on the animals. Lee Roeser has hand made every single pack saddle that goes on each mule, he taught me a lot about placing and repairs of the tack if something happened on a trail. I learned a lot about different hitches and knots, to tie down not only loads on the animals, but to tie down hay and anything to a flatbed truck. The knots always came in handy. They taught me a lot about mules, things I never knew. They taught everything from medical care, to shoeing, to the way you carry yourself around the animals, and hauling stock. Their operation is very consistent, which I believe is key for not only the workers but the stock as well. Lee and Michael did an outstanding job making sure that I learned every aspect of the internship program. Oh, and I can't forget about those mules, they were incredible. I definitely fell in love with every single one of those mules.

This experience has definitely reinforced my drive to keep the wilderness thriving and these traditional methods alive. I rode about 1,000 miles throughout the Ansel Adams Wilderness and John Muir Wilderness on the PCT and the JMT trails during the season. This internship program has already opened up multiple doors for me to start my career in this field.

The Pack Stock Center of Excellence is a phenomenal operation that should continue to have interns in the future from BCHC.

BCHC KERN SIERRA UNIT CALENDAR 2018-2019

October 2018

- 1- 6:30 PM BOD Meeting
- 19- 9:00 AM Frontier Life- Kern County Museum
- 27- 9:00 AM Fall Ride- Robertson's Stables (east)

November 2018

- 5- 6:30 PM BOD meeting
- 10- Repair, paint and potluck- Lynn Joiner's
- 16-18- Cowboy Marketplace- Rancho Rio Stables

December 2018

- 3- 6:00 PM Christmas Meeting- Woolgrower's

January 2019

- 7- 6:30 PM BOD meeting

February 2019

- 4- 6:30 PM BOD meeting
- 21- 9:00 AM California History Day- Kern County Museum

March 2019

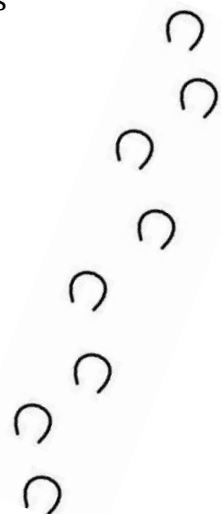
- 4- 6:30 PM BOD meeting
- 15-17- Fred Hall Sportsman Show- Kern County Fairgrounds
- 28- 9:00 AM Frontier Life- Kern County Museum
- 29-31- RENDEZVOUS

April 2019

- 1- 6:30 PM BOD meeting
- 4- 9:00 AM California History Day- Kern County Museum

May 2019

- 2- 9:00 AM Frontier Life- Kern County Museum
- 6- 6:30 PM BOD meeting





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SHARING THE TRAILS

A National Symposium For All Trail Users

November 2-4, 2018 Phoenix, Arizona

ARE YOU A TRAIL USER GROUP LEADER?

A TRAIL USER WHO'S KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE IS RESPECTED?

AN AVID TRAIL USER?

This Symposium should be on your "must do" list!

LEARN FROM THE EXPERTS ABOUT:

- Growing your organization
- Getting younger people active in your group
- Getting grants to help your group
- Having a voice in legislation
- Work with local and federal agencies to improve your trails
- How to work with other trail users for the benefit of all
- Improving your group's trail experience
- Preserving, protecting and expanding the trails
- and much more!

IF YOU DO THIS:



You need to be a part of the Sharing The Trails Symposium

Website: <http://www.sharingthetrails.com/>



Backcountry Horsemen of California Kern Sierra Unit Fall Poker Trail Ride Fundraiser



WHEN: October 27, 2018 (no rain date)

WHERE: Kern River Ride Bakersfield
Heading out from Robertson's stables (east)
315 E. Roberts Lane Bakersfield, CA 93308


CONTACT: Pat Mumford
661-332-8332 or pmmumford@sbcglobal.net

COST: \$25 (lunch and drink included in cost)
Reservations must be made by October 23,2018



GENERAL INFO:

- Water for horses available.
- Restroom facilities.
- All children under 18 must wear a hard hat and must be accompanied by an adult.
- Red ribbons required on tails of stock that may kick.
- No dogs, stallions, radios, alcohol or smoking on trail.
- Bring your own chairs



POKER HAND:

\$5.00 (unlimited hands)

Poker money divided 50% to KSU/50% to top three winners.
Non-riders may buy into the game also.



Reservation Form

Please mail this form and check to: Pat Mumford, 5807 Stacey Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93313 (661-332-8332)
Make checks payable to: BCHC—Kern Sierra Unit

Riders name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone number: _____

# Participants	x \$25 = _____
# Poker Hands	x \$5 = _____
	Total = _____

Backcountry Horsemen of California—Kern Sierra Unit

Objectives and Purpose

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 horsemen 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 backcountry to help educate backcountry users on ways to use the trail and forage 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 interests of the Corporation before our local, state and federal officials.

To assist in the formation and continuation of local Units to carry on these purposes.

BCHC Kern Sierra Unit
16347 Stephenie Street
Bakersfield, CA 93314-9669