

TALES & TRAILS



Newsletter of the Socorro Chapter of the Back Country Horsemen of New Mexico

Calendar of Future Events

October 5-8- Fort Stanton Campout and ride.
Potluck Friday night RSVP to Jane Farmer

October 19 - BCHNM Socorro Chapter meeting
at Kiva RV 6 p.m.

October 21- Middle Rio Grande Equine Expo.
Socorro Rodeo and Sports Complex Space is
limited. See attached flyers for more
information

October 25-Horsemanship groundwork class
in the morning, BYO sack lunch followed by a
ride. 10 a.m. at Kiva RV, Bosque, NM
Contact John Young for more information.

John Young rides at San Lorenzo Canyon
during the week, weather permitting. Contact
John if you are interested in riding with him.

Horse-isms

In every thing you do with your horse
you are either sensitizing him to
pressure or desensitizing him to
pressure. You are either asking him
to move to the pressure or to stand
still and ignore the pressure. (CA)

~John Young

President's Message

I love the fall weather. The days are cooling off and we usually do not have much wind. Best time of the year to ride or play with the horses and mules. We have a number of upcoming events and work parties so join in, see some old friends and you may have some fun.

The BCHNM Socorro Chapter will be doing natural horsemanship clinics/classes starting on October 25, 2017. The first one will be at Kiva RV Park and will start at 9:30 a.m. The first few classes will be on horse psychology and training philosophy and working on ground work exercises. Costs will be \$5.00 for members and \$10 for non-members. The chapter will receive all money. After the first few classes we will start doing training rides. If you have any questions please contact me at 505-363-4943.

John Young

The Socorro Chapter has two new members. Elena Marshal and Kevin Carson. Welcome we are glad to have you!

Meeting Minutes

SOCORRO BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Meeting

September 21, 2017

Acting President John Young called the meeting to order at the KIVA RV Park.

Two new members were recognized: Elena Marshall and Kevin Carson
New Business:

Officers & Board

Interim President

John Young 505-363-4943

E-Mail jyoung@alumni.nmt.edu

Vice President

Claudia Barreto 505-861-0306

barr@unm.edu

Secretary

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E-Mail farmer3619@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Mary Randall 505-861-1088

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Mary Randall - alternate

Editor

Dotty Williams

dwillms7@gmail.com

BCHNM Socorro Chapter Facebook

www.facebook.com/bchnmsocorro

Young read an email from John Allen, Socorro County Extension Office, announcing an Equine Expo at the new Socorro rodeo facility and asking the BCHNM to be a sponsor and provide lunch for participants. On a motion by Steve Randall and second by Jane Farmer, the membership present decided to donate \$100. The group was not interested in preparing lunch.

Young asked the group where they would like to have the Christmas party. The location will be the KIVA. Steve Randall volunteered to cook a turkey. It will be December 14 and will include a potluck and gift exchange. Young reminded the group that nominations for officers will be held at the November meeting and voted on at the meeting portion of the December party.

September 29: Save Our Bosque Task Force (SOBTF) cleanup. Meet at 9 a.m. at Otero Riverine park. Lunch provided.

Rides:

September 30: Diane announced three different rides: Zuni BCHNM, Walking in Circles, and one at Santa Fe. For more information, contact Diane Wiltshire.

October 5-8: Fort Stanton campout. This will not be a work project. RSVP Jane Farmer, 575-838-7345

Those attending: Jane Farmer, Shannon Farmer, Deane Woodard, Diane Wiltshire, Mary Jo McBean, Michelle Darrah, Dotty Williams, Matt Williams

Potluck will be Friday evening.

October 21: Equine Expo at the City of Socorro Rodeo and Sports Complex . Limited to 30 riders. Draft flyer was handed out.

Registration forms to be sent out. No cost. Basics to be taught by John Allen, Socorro County Extension Agent; more advanced by Jason Turner, Horse Specialist at NMSU.

October 25: Natural horsemanship clinic at KIVA (one to be held each month). Conducted by John Young and Diane Wiltshire. Bring a sack lunch. Training rides to follow.

November 4: Conklin ride and potluck (tentative). Michelle will

contact Sue Conklin. In the saddle by 10 a.m.

Diane mentioned that she has become involved with a horse rescue project. They are looking for foster homes for about 9 horses. Contact Diane if anyone is interested.

Steve Randall mentioned that his vet had told him about 4 mules needing homes.

Dotty mentioned that she would like news, notes and pictures for the newsletter.

Oscar mentioned that there is an ongoing effort to turn public lands over to the state and that he will be sending out further information.

Dotty has a horse that would make a nice companion for another horse, and that she would like to put out on pasture.

50/50 - won by Michelle Darrah: \$15.50.

Meeting adjourned

Jane Farmer, Secretary

September Ride



September ride from the Randall's place and potluck barbecue potluck lunch. A good time was had by all!

It Ain't Bragging If It's True

Elena Marshall was given two very nice TWHs. They are the best color, which is gentle, ride very well and are pretty to boot.

Diane has put the first 6 or 7 rides on my mule and they are both doing great. No wrecks. I am building my courage.

I would like to thank Steve and Mary Randall and Elena Marshall for helping with the SOBTF clean up along the river trail. It was a good project and a fun morning. We will ride the trail after the first freeze.

~John Young

FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANNING:

On July 26, 2017 Oscar Simpson attended the Cibola National Forest Collaborative Stewardship Council meeting in Albuquerque, NM.

On August 30, 2017, Oscar Simpson attended the Carson National Forests – Forest Planning Process Workshop in Taos, NM. This workshop brought together diverse interests or points of view on developing consensus on proposed Wilderness Areas, Geographic Areas, Designation Areas and management scenario's.

Public Lands

Trails and Pack Support:

On September 12 and 14, 2017 Oscar Simpson packed in 1200 pounds of water and tools used to support an eight-man trail crew. This crew widened and cleared the upper portion of the South Sandia Crest Trail located in the Cibola National Forest, Sandia Ranger District. Oscar and two forest employees cleared and trimmed portions of the South Crest Trail to accommodate the use of pack stock. Each day took approximately 12 hours to complete. The South Sandia Crest Trail starts at Canyon Estates Trailhead, and traverses up the SE portion of the Sandia Mountains. The trail is very rocky with panoramic views approximately 3.5 miles from the trailhead and 3000 feet higher. This trail head is approximately one mile north of I-40 with access via the Tijeras Exit. There is room for 1 to 2 four horse trailers and the trail head has a circular drive. Trail difficulty-moderate with a few difficult spots that need future tread or re-construction work.

The Santa Fe Chapter and NW Chapter provided pack support for building a bridge over the Santa Barbara River, in the Pecos Wilderness. Read the Taos News article, **Smoke Jumpers Build Bridge Across Río Santa Barbara, Save Taxpayers Money**

<http://www.taosnews.com/stories/smoke-jumpers-build-bridge-across-r237o-santa-barbara-save-taxpayers-money.43268?>

A great article that promotes what we do. This article mentions the BCHNM members that helped. Send them a thank-you.

Highlights of 9-23-17 BCHNM State Board Meeting, Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge.

- 1) The State Board made a change to the State by-laws which will require each chapter to approve or disapprove this change. The proposed change to Article VII, Sections 1 through 6, would split the election of officers (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) into separate elections in different years. This would provide continuity of board experience and knowledge. Suggested changes will follow shortly.
- 2) There was a discussion on who will organize and administer the 2018 Rendezvous (one or more chapters or the State Board). Also there was a discussion concerning registration fees and how the Rendezvous process has changed over time.
- 3) Chapter and State Board Insurance - Presently, the State and Chapter Boards do not have Board Liability Insurance. Notification and billing protocol was not followed and resulted in the termination of our Board Insurance. The State Chair is in the process of getting our Board Insurance reinstated.
- 4) The State Board had a lengthy discussion concerning insufficient funding to maintain or expand the State Chapter functions or activities. Presently funding relies on 2 funding sources, Rendezvous and dues. The State Board cannot afford to send two National Board Representatives to the BCHA Annual Meeting and pay for board and liability insurance. The State Board has ignored this problem for several years and has not conducted a budget analysis in conjunction with a five-year strategic plan. The Pecos Chapter has offered to provide a budget analysis based on a \$5.00 dues increase. A dues increase would require approval by two-thirds of the chapters. Details to follow this month.

Note: The Socorro Chapter needs to follow a similar process if we are going to attract new members. John Young presented a plan of action at the September meeting that will revitalize our chapter.

Public Land and Federal Legislation

The new BCHNM Public Lands Chair/Legislative Chair, Allen Olson, will provide a monthly report on public lands and related legislation. His reports for the past 3 months can be found on the BCHNM web site:

<http://www.bchnm.org/public-lands.html>

I highly recommend that you take a look at our new web site that greatly improves our image: <http://www.bchnm.org>
Also we need to update the Socorro Chapters info and activities on a regular basis.

I will follow up with more detailed information as it becomes available. If you have information related to public lands, proposed legislation, or resolutions on City/Town, County or State levels please contact me at 505-345-0117 or oscarsimpson3@yahoo.com

Oscar Simpson, Socorro Board member, State Delegate and NM National Director, BCHA

FYI

Middle Rio Grande Equine Expo, Saturday, October 21, 2017 to be held at the City of Socorro Rodeo and Sports Complex, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. See attached PDF files for more information and registration form.

HOW TO READ A BRAND

(Freeze mark, Freeze Brand) On A BLM Wild Horse (Mustang) or Burro

All wild horses and burros who have been gathered off public lands by the BLM (Bureau of Land Management) are breeze-branded on the left side of their necks, with a unique set of symbols. De-coding this brand will tell you (1) that the animal was the property of the United States government, (2) the animal's age, (3) the state where the animal was first brought after capture (usually but not always the state of origin), as well as (4) an individual 4-digit code (which corresponds to the neck tag that the animal wears before adoption). These symbols uniquely identify each individual, similar to a human's social security number. If you can read the brand, you can ask any BLM office to look the animal up for you in their computer database, to tell you more about the animal's history.

One thing a brand will NOT tell you is the animal's specific HMA (Herd Management Area). This information can be obtained from BLM if you know the brand.

ALPHA ANGLE CODE FOR FREEZE MARK INTERPRETATION



Retrieved from <http://www.mustangs4us.com/Adopt%20Section/brands.htm>

Links

Back Country Horsemen of New Mexico- www.bchnm.org

Back Country Horsemen of America- www.bcha.org

Leave No Trace- <https://lnt.org>

Fort Stanton, NM- www.fortstanton.org

Senator Tom Udall- <https://www.tomudall.senate.gov/?p=contact>

Senator Martin Heinrich- <https://www.heinrich.senate.gov/contact/write-martin>

Rio Grande Trail Commission- <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/admin/riograndetrailcommission.html>

NMSU Cooperative Extension: Livestock & Range Publication Listing- http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/_b/#horses

Troublesome Weeds of New Mexico publication- <http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/weeds/welcome.html#a26>

List of plants poisonous to equines – with pictures- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_plants_poisonous_to_equines

Trading Post

Items will be listed month to month contact the editor to run again, Trading post advertisements are free to members, email advertisement to Dotty.

[Very nice mule looking for a good home, 14.2 hands, about 900 lbs. and has very good manners. Call John Young at 505-363-4943](#)

[John Young](#)

BCHNM license plates, patches, and keyring/flashlights are available to purchase at the monthly meeting:
license plates - \$10, patches - \$5, keyring - \$3



Socorro Back Country Horseman Chapter 2017 Membership Application

Please list all names for family membership. Children over 18 may be included in family membership or may join as an individual.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work/Cell: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contacts:

Name: _____ Telephone _____

Name: _____ Telephone _____

Preferred Hospital/Physician

I/We realize there are inherent risks involved in all activities with equine animals and I/We hereby release BCHA/SBCH/NM and its Officers, Directors and Membership, from liability for any accident, injury, or death that may occur to myself/ourselves or my/our equine by participation in any Back Country Horsemen of America activity. In accordance with EQUINE LIABILITY ACT SJC/SENATE BILL 268.a.a. 1993.

I/We further understand that I/We are fully responsible for our minor children and release BCHA/SBCH/NM of any and all liability for any accident, injury, and/or death of any minor child. Children under the age of eighteen (18) years are not allowed to participate in any BCHA activity unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

I have read, understand, and agree to comply with the Ride Rules and Trail Etiquette of the Socorro chapter of the BCHNM.

Dues: \$30.00 - annually for individual \$45.00 - annually for family \$5.00 - One time Event.

Associate Membership \$10.00 (must be a paid-up member of another chapter)

_____ Home Chapter

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please mail application and your dues to: Socorro BCH 102 Romero Dr. Veguita NM 87062