

# TALES & TRAILS

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



### Calendar of Future Events

December 3-Walnut Canyon ride. In the saddle at 10:30 a.m. Lunch at trailers. RSVP to Jane Farmer

December 5-Save Our Bosque Task Force meeting at Socorro Count Annex. Meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. with holiday potluck to follow at noon.

December 6-Natural Horsemanship clinic at Kiva RV. 9:30 a.m.( note this is a change of venue)

December 14-December meeting-Christmas Party and Potluck at Kiva RV Park. 5:30 p.m. Bring your favorite dish and a horse related gift.

January 1-New Years Day ride at San Lorenzo Canyon. In the saddle at 10 a.m., toast at 9:30

### Presidents Message

We are fast coming down to the end of 2017 and it has been a good year. It is always fun this time of year to think about all the things I'm going to do with the horses and mules this next year. I have some big plans. Now I just have to figure out how am going to do it.

We will continue doing the Natural Horsemanship classes and trying to improve our own skills and build a better relationship with our horses and mules. The next Natural Horsemanship class will will be on December 6 and will be held at Chris and Frank Kurtmakers place. Come on out they are a lot of fun. Directions will be provided.

The Christmas Party will be held on December 14 at Kiva RV Park. It will start at 5:30 p.m. Bring a gift and join in on Diann's round robin gift exchange, it is always a lot of fun. Steve is cooking a turkey. Elena is bringing dressing and I will bring my fruit salad. You will see people at the party that you have not see all year. It is always fun.

The New Years ride will be on January 1 and will be at the power line at San Lorenzo Canyon. If you want to join in the New Years toast be there at 9:30. In the saddle at 10 am. If the weather is bad we will move it to January 6 . The ride is a little under 6 miles and will last about 2 hours. No shoes are required.

John Young

### Horse-isms

Human emotion's have no place in training horses. You ability to be a fair and just leader is the foundation for a safe, respectful and mutually enjoyable partnership with your horse. (Clinton Anderson) ~John Young

## Officers & Board

### President

John Young-Interim President  
505-363-4943  
E-Mail [jyoung@alumni.nmt.edu](mailto:jyoung@alumni.nmt.edu)

### Vice President

Claudia Barreto 505-861-0306  
E-mail [barr@unm.edu](mailto:barr@unm.edu)

### Secretary

Jane Farmer 575-835-3619  
E-Mail [farmer3619@hotmail.com](mailto:farmer3619@hotmail.com)

### Treasurer

Mary Randall 505-861-1088  
E-Mail [maryrandall8@gmail.com](mailto:maryrandall8@gmail.com)

### Board

Oscar Simpson 505-345-0117 E-Mail  
[oscarsimpson3@yahoo.com](mailto:oscarsimpson3@yahoo.com)  
Steve Randall 505-861-1088  
E-Mail [sdrandall72@gmail.com](mailto:sdrandall72@gmail.com)  
Mary Randall - alternate

### Editor

Dotty Williams  
[dwillms7@gmail.com](mailto:dwillms7@gmail.com)

BCHNM Socorro Chapter Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/bchnmsocorro](http://www.facebook.com/bchnmsocorro)

Back Country Horsemen of New Mexico  
[www.bchnm.org](http://www.bchnm.org)

## Natural Horsemanship Class, Change of Venue.

When: Wednesday, December 6, 2017

Where: It will be at Kiva RV Park

Time: 9:30 am

What to bring: Stick, String, rope halter and lead.

What we will be doing: Fundamental Ground Work

What we need to do before leaving. Pick up piles, last time some people did, most of us did not.

## Meeting Minutes

### SOCORRO BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN NOVEMBER 16, 2017 Kiva RV Park

Acting President John Young opened the meeting at 6 p.m.

#### New Business:

John and Diane Wiltshire asked the members in attendance what they thought about starting meetings at 5:30 p.m. This would be more convenient for office workers and Diane at the KIVA. Members present agreed. Starting with the Christmas party, meetings will now begin at 5:30 p.m.

Dues are due.

On a motion by Steve Randall and second by Mike Schaeffer, minutes of the October meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurers Report: Current balance = \$1,297.91

Last State Board Meeting: State Randall reported that the Rendezvous will be at Resumadera again this year. There was a discussion as to whether or not proceeds from the Rendezvous should go into a separate account, or the general fund. The State is also asking for chapter dues requests. Socorro chapter

decided (on a motion by Steve; second by Dotty) not to raise dues this year and see how that works. Number of state representatives to nationals was discussed. There are currently two representatives for each state.

Nominations for officers for next year were:

President:	John Young
Vice President:	Diane Wiltshire
Treasurer:	Mary Randall
Secretary/Historian:	Jane Farmer
State Board Reps	Steve and Mary, John alternate
Newsletter	Dotty Williams

Mary Randall questioned the \$100 to the Socorro Extension Expo. Diane suggested that next year we might have a booth.

Rides:

December 3 (SUNDAY) - Jane said that she and Deane Woodard had been scoping out various loops in the area. The group said they would prefer to go up the canyon and back, as usual. RSVP Jane Farmer: 575-838-7345 Bring a lunch to each back at the trailers. Directions: When going south from the KIVA on I-25, take the San Antonio exit, go through cattle guard on your right which is also at the end of the divided highway. Go south on the gravel ride until the road turns west. Go about 4 miles and park at the old corrals.

December 14 - Christmas party at the KIVA at 5:30. Steve will bring turkey; others need to bring a dish. Bring a horse related gift no more than (\$20).

January 1, 2018 - New Year's Day ride - 9:30 a.m. gather and toast near power line at San Lorenzo. RSVP John Young 505-363-4943 In the saddle 10 a.m.

The members decided to give Al and Sue Conklin an honorary membership for their gracious hosting of rides from their place. They always provide delicious lasagna and a great time.

Natural Horse Clinics - It was reported the clinics were good and there was good participation.

Next clinic November 29

Mike suggested the leader of a ride review safety rules

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Farmer, Secretary

## Conklin Ride

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Eleven riders trudged through the sand and hills east of the Conklin estate. The weather could not have been more perfect. The views of the trees turning along the River were gorgeous. We rode a little over 7 miles for a little over 2 hours. The potluck was spectacular. Sue did herself out on the lasagna, as usual. All drivers indulged sparingly on the margarita pie. We truly had a great time and hope we have not worn our welcome out at the Conklin place.



## FYI

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### **Back Country Horsemen of New Mexico Ride Rules & Trail Etiquette**

1. No Stallions or intact Jacks are allowed on trail rides.
2. Keep your equine one animal length behind others.
3. Equines that are known kickers must have a red ribbon tied to their tail or tack that is visible from the rear.
4. Do not stop unnecessarily. If a stop is necessary, move off to the side of the trail, and advise the trail boss that you are stopping.
5. Stay behind the Trail Boss at all times.
6. Do not lag behind the group; stay in front of the drag rider and with the rider in front within sight.
7. Do not run or trot up behind another animal
8. Pack animals must be under control and on a lead rope
9. When passing, advise the riders in front of your intention, do so at a walk.
10. Stay on designated trails.
11. Riding Double is not permitted
12. Ride single file in hazardous areas
13. Dogs are not allowed on trail rides.
14. If you bring it in, you pack it out
15. Leave all gates as you found them.
16. No smoking on the trail

These minimal ride rules are to ensure that every rider has a safe, enjoyable ride. There are numerous other "rules" that could be listed, but if common sense is used, they are not needed

## Public Lands

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BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF NEW MEXICO

PUBLIC LANDS/LEGISLATIVE REPORT

DECEMBER, 2017

### More on National Forest Plans

Forest Plans govern the administration and management of National Forests for 20 to 30 years. All five National Forests in New Mexico are presently undertaking the revision of their plans. Recreation, trails, wilderness areas and roadless areas are all part of the planning process.

Here is the current status of all five forest plans:

#### Cibola National Forest

Last year the FS released its Preliminary Draft Alternatives for Cibola. The Draft Plan will be released this coming spring. At that point, there will be public meetings and a time period in which to comment. One issue to be addressed is the amount of forest land that needs to be protected as wilderness. Trail location, usage and maintenance will also be an issue in this and all the other forests.

#### Santa Fe National Forest

The FS will release its Draft Plan in early 2018 at which time there will be public meetings and a comment period. The Protect Pecos Coalition is working to address the protection of roadless areas adjoining the Pecos Wilderness and will push to have this issue addressed in the Plan.

#### Carson National Forest

The FS has recently released a Preliminary Draft Plan with “alternative themes” and is expected to release a Draft Plan before the end of the year. At that time there will be opportunities for public comment. So far the Plan does not provide a wilderness inventory and evaluation, and this definitely needs to be added.

On a related matter, the FS has proposed reducing the number of eligible wild and scenic river segments in the Carson from 103 to 48. This has engendered significant opposition including from Senators Udall and Heinrich and Congressman Lujan. See the attached letter:

#### Gila National Forest

The FS is now evaluating wilderness areas and developing alternatives for its new plan. A Draft Plan is expected sometime in 2018, again with opportunity for public comment.

#### Lincoln National Forest

The Lincoln National Forest will be the last NM national forest to complete a revised Forest Plan. The FS is still in an information gathering stage and will use that information to prepare an environmental assessment.

#### Chapter Input

I would like to recommend that each BCH chapter designate a representative to lead a chapter review of proposed Plans for the forests in which the chapter helps maintain trails.

This person would work with me and be the focal point for BCH comments on the Plans. Now is the time to get organized for reviewing the Plans to be released in 2018. Please let me know if your chapter is able to do this.

### BLM Resource Management Plan Revisions

The Carlsbad, Farmington and Tri-County (Las Cruces) BLM Field Offices are currently engaged in revisions of their Resource Management Plans, which are similar to Forest Plans. An important component of the plan revision process is the evaluation of BLM lands with wilderness characteristics and the determination whether to manage such lands to protect their wilderness values. The public will have opportunities to comment on these evaluations and other plan revisions sometime in 2018. If any chapters are involved with BLM lands in any of these districts, please let me know.

### Contact

I look forward to speaking with all BCH members about public lands issues. Please call or e-mail me anytime.

Allen Olson  
Public Lands/Legislative Chair  
BCHNM  
[allen@olsonaglaw.com](mailto:allen@olsonaglaw.com)  
229-403-0925

## Links

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Back Country Horsemen of New Mexico- [www.bchnm.org](http://www.bchnm.org)

Back Country Horsemen of America- [www.bcha.org](http://www.bcha.org)

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

Fort Stanton, NM- [www.fortstanton.org](http://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](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](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_plants_poisonous_to_equines)

Equine evacuation manual from the Gila Chapter - <http://gilabchnm.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/equineevacuation2014.pdf>







**Socorro Back Country Horseman Chapter 2018 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