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SIS-Q-TRAILS

www.bchc-tos.com

Backcountry Horsemen of California

TOP OF THE STATE UNIT PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Wow, what a winter we've had, and the weather doesn't want to let up! We appreciate all of the rain and snow that will keep our favorite forests green and vibrant, keep the meadows lush, and creeks and rivers running strong. We also hope this plentiful moisture means our area ranchers who produce so much of our livestock feed can irrigate their crops this summer with little or now restrictions!

This wet and snowy winter will almost certainly bring more trail clearing, and trailhead and campground cleanup work for our Unit members. We are continuing communications with our Klamath National Forest partners in hopes we can get some projects scheduled soon. Keep an eye out for emails and Facebook posts asking for volunteers for our rescheduled Grider Creek Campground corral build and cleanup (hoping for a date in April!) and other projects. We are also planning to schedule chainsaw and crosscut saw certification classes and a First Aid/CPR class in April for all who need them. We already have a signed Volunteer Agreement in place with the KNF, so I hope members are excited to get some great work done this year in our area forests! Speaking of volunteer opportunities, our Highway Cleanup chairperson, Michael Stapleton, has scheduled a cleanup event on April 15 (at 10 a.m.) on our stretch of Highway 3 in Etna. Volunteers should meet at the Siskiyou Telephone entrance. Please reach out to Michael for more information. Phone and email contact information for all of our Unit leaders and chairpersons can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

On March 18, Unit members and guests gathered in Fort Jones for our annual Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner. What an amazing turn out! It was such a great turn out that your President/Newsletter Editor (myself) forgot to take pictures because I was enjoying visiting with everyone! We had about 60 attendees, including guests from the Klamath National Forest and the BCHC Shasta-Trinity Unit. Your Unit leadership members always look forward to these type events because it's one of the best times to visit with old and new members and really celebrate friendships and drum up excitement for more great events this year. Dinner organizers Debbie Bacigalupi and myself would like to thank caterers Dave and Kathy Tyler for once again preparing an outstanding meal. We'd also like to thank the following people for helping set up and decorate the hall and tables, and also for donating items for our raffle, silent auction and desert auction: Alan Woods, Shirley Tickner, Stephanie Reynolds, Erica Fruiht, Judy York, Penny Wells-Thomas, Donna and Jerry Bacigalupi, Scott and Jamie Essex (and Ben Bishop and Mercy Bishop), Kim and Lloyd Potts and Larry and Rose Shuman (Shasta-Trinity Unit).

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SIS-Q-TRAILS

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Top of the State Unit
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DISCLAIMER: Articles and advertisements that appear in SIS-Q-TRAILS do not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the BCHC, TOS Unit or its officers and members. Nor does publication of said articles and advertisements constitute an endorsement of views or of the goods or services offered therein that they may express. Accuracy of all material is the sole responsibility of the authors. BCHC TOS is not responsible for unsolicited material of any kind.

SUBMISSIONS AND DEADLINES: The Top of the State Unit welcomes new member contributions, club news, events, calendar dates, and items of interest that you wish to have submitted in the next issue of the newsletter. These need to be submitted by the 15th of the month and will be printed as space is available. This newsletter is edited and published four times per year.

Deadline Date:	Publication Date:
March 15 June 15	January 1 April 1
September 15 December 15	July 1 October 1

Send all information (text, photos and/or images) to newsletter editor/publisher mailing or email addresses listed above.

PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE

This newsletter is a document of communication that disseminates information of the Top of the State Unit of the BCHC covering schedules, information, philosophy and historical materials pertinent to the participants of the back country of Northern California.

1. Perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
2. Assist the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resources.
3. Educate, encourage and solicit active participation in wise and sustaining use of the back country by horsemen and the general public.
4. Work to ensure that the public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
5. Foster and encourage the formation of new state backcountry horsemen organizations.

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Caralee Scala (530) 459-5788

The Top of the State Unit is online and on Facebook! Important forms, including a membership application, are available for download and printing on the website. Go to <http://bchc-tos.com/> and click on Forms to see the full list of documents. The Top of the State Unit Facebook page can be found at: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/pg/bchctopofthestate/posts/>

Welcome New Members

Megan Rakisits
Kyle Adkins

Emergency evacuation help list

Below is our list of Unit members who can take in anyone evacuating with animals (big and small) from wildfires or any other natural disaster. Many of us also have means to help evacuate livestock.

This list will continue to grow, and we welcome any additional members who volunteer to be added to this list. Please don't hesitate to reach out.

Scott Valley area:

- Jennifer Bull and Joe Croteau (530) 643-9397
- Gail and John Lyons (530) 467-3137
- Lloyd and Kim Potts (530) 598-3630
- Robert Robustellini (530) 340-5166
- Laurie Robustellini (530) 598-0944
- Barbara Schuyler (916) 947-8258
- Betsy Stapleton (707) 499-7082
- Michael Stapleton (530) 598-6164
- Penny Wells-Thomas (530) 643-1030
- Kelly York (530) 979-6577

Shasta Valley area:

- Debbie Bacigalupi (650) 417-1674
- Jamie Essex (530) 598-8322
- Scott Essex DVM (541) 892-8905
- Michele Machado (817) 308-0258
- Janice Rushton (530) 598-8650
- Dorinda Thompson (530) 598-0870 (cell); (530) 435-0221 (landline)
- Alan Woods (530) 408-8809

Mt. Shasta area:

- Ruth Altes (530) 925-2608

You are my Sunshine, my only Sunshine

Did you we have a Sunshine Chairperson? Sherry Glendenning is in charge of "Sunshine" for our Unit, and she is kind enough to send out cards by mail to members for happy events or times of injury, illness or grief. If you know a member who is deserving of a card, please reach out to Sherry at (530) 598-7466 or sherhorse@sisqtel.net

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- You will find the same airlines, hotels, rental cars and cruises as on other travel websites!
- You'll get great travel prices!
- Each time you book travel a portion of the travel commissions will go to support BCHC!

It's that simple!

AB233 amended to remove mention of public lands

Earlier this year, BCHC called on members and all horse and mule enthusiasts to contact our local state lawmakers to express our concern regarding California AB233, a bill that proposed horse manure needed to be picked up on any city streets, sidewalks and “other public property”. The “public property” wording was concerning because it could have been interpreted as public lands such as the backcountry trails we ride frequently.

The efforts to modify were successful as the bill was

amended to remove “other public property ” because the language was “too vague” and could be misinterpreted. Bill language now reads: This bill would authorize a local agency to require the rider of, or person otherwise responsible for, a horse to collect and dispose of any horse excrement deposited by that horse on a street or sidewalk.

Read the full bill at:

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB233

Get outside: Trail riding & hiking resources

Compiled by Michele Machado

We’re dreaming of riding and hiking, and there is no better time (while we wait for the snow to melt) to do some research for new adventures and rediscovering old favorites. These resources should help:

Klamath National Forest Interactive Visitor Map:

Zoom in on this map to see dozens of trailheads and hundreds of trails with mileage info. Use the search function to search a specific trail or trailhead:

<https://bit.ly/3FYdKWW>

KNF Recreation Map & Conditions Report: Go here to get timely updates on trail and campground conditions: <https://bit.ly/3ZkxKKi>

Recreation.gov: If you plan on camping at any established and maintained horse camp in the U.S., you’ll likely need to reserve and pay for your spot ahead of time at <https://www.recreation.gov/>.



Day hiking on the Pacific Crest Trail north of Carter Meadows.
Photo courtesy of Michele Machado

Riding out of Quinn Meadow Horse Camp in Central Oregon.

Photo courtesy of Michele Machado

Learn more at:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/deschutes/recarea/?recid=38956> or

<https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/233788>



Oregon and Western U.S. Riding Resources

NW Horse Trails: Author/rider Kim McCarrel has published five guidebooks and writes a blog on her website that is very helpful for scouting trails for all skill levels and horse camping in Oregon and Washington.

Web: <https://nwhorsetrails.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/northwesthorsetrails>

Horse Poor 4Ever: This Facebook page and website covers riding trails and horse campgrounds throughout the West, including some outstanding photos and videos.

Web: <https://horsepoor4ever.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HorsePoor4Ever>

Holly’s Horse Tales and Trails: Another valuable resource with lots of videos, photos and information about riding in the West (mostly in Oregon):

Web: <https://hollyblogsheradventures.blogspot.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/hollyshorsetalesandtrails>



Dr. Scott Essex, DVM, gave an informative talk about equine dentistry at our March Membership meeting. Photo courtesy of Michele Machado

Continued from Page 1

Spring is a great time to be in touch with our local large animal vets for your equine vaccinations, dentals and wellness checks. With that in mind we asked Unit member Dr. Scott Essex, DVM, to give a short talk about equine dentals at our March Membership meeting. Not only was Scott's talk very informative, it also sparked some great questions from meeting attendees. We had so many questions that Scott agreed to come back to meetings throughout the year to talk about other topics such as colic, ulcers, etc. Stay tuned for announcements about future talks.

Education is an important part of our Unit goals, and this spring we're planning to resume our participation in the Siskiyou Ag Awareness Day on May 17. Stay tuned for more information about that event. Also, this year we have decided to not give a \$1000 scholarship to an area high school graduate, but instead donate \$2000 to the Shasta-Trinity Unit for a North State packing internship program that will likely come to fruition in 2024. The decision to not award the scholarship was due, in part, to low interest last year and the 2022 recipient not claiming her award. The North State packing intern will benefit our area forests and trails while working with Shasta-Trinity National Forest, Klamath NF and Modoc NF packers.

We look forward to seeing members out at our first riding events. The Etna Rodeo parade is scheduled for April 30 and we'll need flag bearers and riders. Please reach out to Kelly York if you can ride. On May 13, Michael and Betsy Stapleton are hosting a playday at their ranch on French Creek Road. Look for an email and Facebook post with more information on this event.

**Happy Trails,
Michele Machado**

Inventory equine first aid kit to get ready for riding/packing season

With the riding and packing season getting back into full swing soon, now is great time to check your trailers and saddle packs to make sure you are well stocked in first aid supplies.

Here is an equine first aid list provided by Massie Mobile Veterinary Services:

Pharmacy:

- Bute paste (2) and/or powder form (musculoskeletal pain)
- Banamine paste (2) (colic/laminitis/eyes/mouth)
- Electrolyte paste (2) (dehydration)
- Ophthalmic antibiotic ointment (for eyes)
- Eye wash
- Antihistamine (optional)
- SWAT (for flies)
- Arnica Gel or Traumeel Gel
- Arnica Poultice/Sore No More
- Liniment

Assessment Tools:

- 6" veterinary thermometer in a case (with string and clip)
- Stethoscope
- Flashlight/headlamp/penlight
- Exam gloves
- Watch/time device
- Tourniquet
- Wire cutters
- Permanent marker

Wound Cleaning & Treatment:

- Betadine liquid
- 20-30 cc syringe
- Triple Antibiotic Ointment
- 4x4 non-adherent telfa pads (6)
- Kling or Brown 6" gauze roll
- Cotton roll or quilted padding
- Vet-rap 4" (4)
- Elasticon tape 3" (2)
- Adhesive tape 1" (2)
- Scissors
- Splint (PVC)

Hoof Care

- Hoof pick
- Boot
- Duct Tape
- Diapers
- Epson Salt
- Bucket for ice (laminitis)

Tack Sores

- 4 oz antiseptic ointment (or any soothing analgesic ointment)
- Foam padding 2" thick

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 <p>DR. AMY FOUSEK 530-640-3628 <small>SISKIYOU VETERINARYSERVICES.COM</small></p>	 <p>DR. KEATON MASSIE 541-636-1191 <small>MASSIEVET.COM</small></p>	 <p>DR. SCOTT ESSEX 541-892-8905</p>
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BCHC -- Top of the State Unit Activities for 2023

Please watch the Unit website, Facebook page and Unit emails for continued updates.

April 6	BOD Meeting, Yreka	July 6	BOD Meeting, Fort Jones
April 15	Highway cleanup, Etna	August 3	No BOD Meeting
April 30	Etna Rodeo parade	August 9-13	Siskiyou Golden Fair, Yreka
May 4	BOD Meeting, Fort Jones	September 7	BOD Meeting, Fort Jones
May 13	Horse/Mule playday, Stapleton's French Creek Ranch	October 5	BOD Meeting, location TBD
May 17	Siskiyou Ag Awareness Day, Yreka	October 6-7	BCHC BOD meeting, location TBD
June 1	BOD Meeting, location TBD	October 21	Halloween Obstacle event, Big Springs
June-August with	Work party projects in cooperation with the Klamath Nation Forest, TBD	November 2	Membership Meeting, Fort Jones
		December 2	Christmas dinner, Fort Jones
		December 7	BOD Meeting, location TBD

Visit the Top of the State Unit website (<http://bchc-tos.com/index.html>) or Facebook site (<https://www.facebook.com/bchctopofthestate>) for events and much more.

New snow impacts March survey

Article courtesy of the Klamath National Forest

The Klamath National Forest snow surveyors and volunteers were only able to access one survey location for the March 1 report. The February report is shown at right for comparison. The weather was fairly dry mid-January into February, with storms in the last week of the month vastly increasing the local snowpack. While the snow may have been great for recreation opportunities, snow surveyors were largely stymied. Although attempts were made, only one of the five March survey sites was able to be accessed. Surveyors at Swampy John below Etna Pass found much new snow, albeit readily compressed, which made for a lower-than-expected Snow Water Equivalent (SWE, a measure of water content) despite the excellent snow height (snow depth). Historically, snowpack reaches its annual maximum by late-March/early-April.

Snow surveys are conducted monthly during the winter and spring months (February through May). Forest Service employees travel to established sites in the headwaters of the Scott River watershed to take measurements. Some sites are located close to Forest roads with good access, while others require hours of travel by snowshoe and/or snowmobile. These measurements are a part of the statewide California Cooperative Snow Survey program, which helps the State forecast the quantity of water available for agriculture, power generation, recreation, and stream flow releases later in the year. The data is managed by the California Department of Water Resources; more information is available on their website at

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/snow/current/snow/index.html>.

March 1st, 2023, Snow Survey Results Scott River Sub-Basin

Snow Course	Height of Snow			Snow Water Equivalent		
	Measured	Long-term Average for Mar 1	% of Long-term Average	Measured	Long-term Average for Mar 1	% of Long-term Average
Middle Boulder 1 (Established 1946 / Elevation 6600')	Did not survey			Did not survey		
Middle Boulder 3 (Established 1948 / Elevation 6200')	Did not survey			Did not survey		
Dynamite Meadow (Established 1955 / Elevation 5700')	Did not survey			Did not survey		
Swampy John (Established 1951 / Elevation 5500')	75.9"	69.9"	109%	17.2"	24.1"	71%
Scott Mountain (Established 1986 / Elevation 5900')	Did not survey			Did not survey		
Total average	N/A			N/A		

February 1st, 2023: Snow Survey Results Scott River Sub-Basin

Snow Course	Height of Snow			Snow Water Equivalent		
	Measured	Long-term Average for Feb 1	% of Long-term Average	Measured	Long-term Average for Feb 1	% of Long-term Average
Middle Boulder 1 (Established 1946 / Elevation 6600')	77.0"	49.5"	156%	33.1"	19.0"	174%
Middle Boulder 3 (Established 1948 / Elevation 6200')	77.4"	48.6"	159%	27.0"	17.4"	155%
Dynamite Meadow (Established 1955 / Elevation 5700')	52.3"	37.3"	140%	17.0"	12.1"	140%
Swampy John (Established 1951 / Elevation 5500')	39.2"	55.6"	71%	14.2"	18.8"	76%
Scott Mountain (Established 1986 / Elevation 5900')	39.0"	39.2"	100%	13.5"	13.7"	99%
Total average	125%			129%		

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

☐ Antelope Valley
☐ Eastern Sierra
☐ High Country
☐ High Sierra
☐ Kern River Valley
☐ Kern Sierra

☐ Lake-Mendo
☐ Los Padres
☐ Mid Valley
☐ Motherlode
☐ North Bay
☐ Pacific Crest

☐ Redshank Riders
☐ Redwood
☐ San Diego
☐ San Joaquin Sierra
☐ Santa Ana River
☐ Sequoia

☐ Shasta Trinity
☐ Sierra Freepackers
☐ Sutter Buttes
☒ Top of the State

DCTR (Your Membership Number): _____

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: _____

Donation to BCHC Education Fund (Tax deductible) \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Check No. _____

Parent Unit Membership Types (Check One)

☐ 1 Year Individual \$50
☐ 2 Year Individual \$90
☐ 3 Year Individual \$125

☐ 1 Year Family \$60
☐ 2 Year Family \$110
☐ 3 Year Family \$150

☐ Young Adult (18-25 years old) \$15
☐ Youth (12-17 years old) \$15*
*Youth members MUST fill out BOTH
Youth Membership forms (available online)

☐ 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/Unit
Unit Name (from above list)

Associate Membership for: _____ \$15/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 if 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.

Youth Memberships

Youth Memberships MUST be accompanied by a signed Youth
Membership Permission Release and Youth Parent Permission
Form. A Youth Membership is NOT valid until BCHC or the
Parent Unit has received signed copies of these forms.

**Complete information regarding BCHC Membership
is available on the MEMBERSHIP TAB at
bchcalifornia.org or call (775) 463-3634**

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

I submitted an Application Form for a new -

☐ 1 Year Individual \$50
☐ 2 Year Individual \$90
☐ 3 Year Individual \$125
☐ 1 Year Family \$60
☐ 2 Year Family \$110
☐ 3 Year Family \$150
☐ Young Adult (18-25 years old) \$15
☐ Youth (12-17 years old) \$15*
☐ Benefactor \$100
☐ Patron \$250
☐ Mt. Whitney \$500

On that form, I also requested:

_____ Associate Memberships \$ _____

My Total Remittance: \$ _____

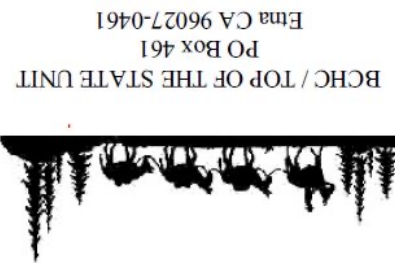
My Check Number: _____

Date Mailed: _____

Verification of BCHC Membership

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
- 4) a valid email address



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monthly Meetings are the first Thursday of the month.

Please watch the TOS Unit website, Facebook page and Unit emails for continued updates.

April Events:

- April 6: Board of Directors Meeting, 7 p.m., Jefferson's Roadhouse, Yreka
- April 15: Highway cleanup, 10 a.m., Etna
- April 22: First Aid/CPR class, time TBD (morning start), Etna
- April 30: Etna Rodeo parade, time TBD, Etna
- April or May TBD: Grider Creek Campground corral build and campground maintenance, time TBD

May Events:

- May 4: Board of Directors Meeting, 7 p.m., Fort Jones Community Center
- May 13: Horse/Mule Playday at Stapleton's ranch, time TBD, outside Etna (French Creek Rd.)
- May 17: Siskiyou Agriculture Awareness Day, 9 a.m., Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds, Yreka

June Events:

- June 1: Board of Directors Meeting, 7 p.m.; location TBD
- June TBD: Work party projects in cooperation with the Klamath Nation Forest, locations TBD
- June Fish Plants: Lakes and dates TBD, more info to come