Welcome Pacific Crest Unit! They are a brand new unit based in Phelan, Ca. Be sure to look out for upcoming rides and events hosted by this unit.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

If you missed the Backcountry Horsemen of California Rendezvous this year, you missed out on a lot of fun. The Rendezvous was held March 17 through 19 at the Tri County Fairgrounds in Bishop, California.

Paul Frisbey demonstrated “knotless packing” which was well attended. The participants had lots of questions for Paul about the best way to set up a knotless pack system, and questioned him about the advantages and limitations of this type of pack.

I gave a talk about recording GPS tracks on rides using phone apps and GPS receivers. Several of the attendees signed a list asking for a copy of my presentation. I hope to follow up this interest with a GPS clinic locally in the near future.

Sal Vasquez and I entered our artwork in the Rendezvous art show. Sal cleaned up, as usual, with a first place, second place, and honorable mention for his three paintings. I received a first place for my photo of my dog, Muchacha, who is very photogenic and LOVES to have her photo taken.

Kaye Bruns, our former Antelope Valley Unit President, demonstrated Dutch oven cooking at the Rendezvous. I arrived just in time to get generous samples of her enchilada casserole, apricot chicken, and apple cobbler. If you would like me to forward her recipes to you via email, just let me know.

The weather was beautiful at the Rendezvous and it was fun to socialize with our Unit’s members and others from around the state.

Next year’s Rendezvous will be held in Red Bluff.

Kelly Carle is putting together another reconnaissance day at Bandido where we will make a list of work that needs to be done at the campground. Once this is accomplished, we will start setting aside some dates for work parties.

Welcome to our new members: Douglas and Monica Clark; Robin Davis; and Diane and Wayne Pitzler. I hope to see you all on the trail.

I hope everyone can join us for the April 15 Poppy Ride in Lancaster. The Poppy Reserve predicts that the poppies will still be in bloom at this date. Our ride will take us around Fairmont Butte, past the quarry site of the LA Aqueduct, and past a Native American bedrock mortar “gossip rock.”

Our Unit’s calendar of rides has been set and posted to the Facebook page. All dates are subject to change, so check with the trail boss before heading out for a ride.

April 15 – Poppy Ride PUBLIC DAY (Non-Members welcome)
May 14 – Mother’s Day ride in Chino, CA
June 18 – Rustler’s Roost in Lake LA
July 4 – Ride and BBQ (Members only)
August – Pack trip to Trout Meadow
September – TBA (Lunch Pack Ride)
October 1 – Lazy T ride in Leona Valley
November 11 - Veteran’s Day ride
December 13 - Christmas Party

Don’t forget: Our May meeting is a week early due to Mule Days. See you at our May 17th meeting in Leona Valley.

Marcy Watton
President, Antelope Valley Unit
Calendar of Events

April 15, 2017 – Saturday
Poppy ride (Probably Avenue D @ 140th St. West)

April 20-22, 2017—BCHA National Board meeting
Great Falls, MT

May 14, 2017—Sunday
Mother’s Day ride in Chino Hills
Trail Boss: Kelly

May 17, 2017 – Unit Meeting

May 23-28, 2017—Mule Days—Bishop, CA

June 18, 2017—Sunday
Rustler’s Roost ride in Lake LA
Approximately 14301 E Avenue Q,
Between 145th St East and Big rock creek bed, a dirt parking lot
(on the north side)

(Continued on page 3)

BCHC-AV Meetings
Leona Valley Improvement Association
8367 Elizabeth Lake Road
BCHC has a Facebook page! (Ctrl +) Click here

All meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday
(January, March, May, July, September, and November)

The meetings start at 6:30 and include a pot luck dinner. Bring a dish to share, bring your family, bring your friends.

Directions:
(14) AV freeway
West on Palmdale Blvd
Continue on Elizabeth Lake Rd. approx. 8½ miles
(If you come to a four-way stop, you have gone too far.)
The Community Center is on the right (north) side of the road.

Backcountry Horsemen of California
Antelope Valley Unit
Officers – 2017

President
Marcy Watton (661) 878-1791
horsinground@att.net

Past President
Paul Frisbey (661) 944-3601
phfrisbey@aol.com

VP of Public Lands
Vacant / Team Effort

VP Education
(Vacant)

Trail Services Coordinator
Paul Frisbey (661) 944-3601
phfrisbey@aol.com

Trail Ride Coordinator
June Frisbey (661) 944-3601
Jfrisbey@gmail.com

Secretary
Hillery Pullinger
Hillery16@hotmail.com

Treasurer
Valerie Zera (661) 944-1621
Saddlinth@aol.com

Sergeant At Arms
Jay Tremblay
(661) 947-2664

Newsletter & Media Relations Chair
April S. Golden (702) 518-2737
bchc-av@gmail.com

Membership Coordinator
Kay Brickner 942-8816
Kaybrickner@yahoo.com

Historian
Pat Gordon 270-1848
Eij5757@earthlink.net

BCHC State Board Directors
Primary: Jerry Stone (661) 273-1059
trailstone@sbcglobal.net
Alternate: (Vacant)

AV Unit Wilderness Rider: Paul Frisbey
Asse. Members: Bradley and Emily Miles

Antelope Valley Unit Newsletter
Edited and published on the 15th of
February, April, June, August, October and December.

AV Unit Webpage
http://www.bchc-avunit.org

Concerned Men and Women
Dedicated to Gentle Use of
California Trails and Back Country

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN
of California
Membership Report
as of Apr 7, 2017

New members: (5)
Douglas and Monica Clark - Palmdale, CA
Robin Davis - Lancaster, CA
Diane and Wayne Pitzler - Phelan, CA

Expired in Mar: (2)
Nevarez; Vatan

Expiring in Apr: (1)
Stopper

Expiring in May/June: (5)
Cotton; Nelson, G; Sage; Batholomew

As of April 1, 2017 we have 70 members.

Send all membership renewals to BCHC Membership,
1280 State Rte 208, Yerington, NV 89447.

If you change your email address, phone number, mailing
address, or membership status, please let one of the
Officers know.

If you want to get communication from State, you must
send them your email address.

RIDE INFORMATION
Please RSVP to all rides. There are some places where we will need to
double up in trailers, and we would like to know who is going. Addition-
ally, some rides require reservations and payment up front.

Be in the saddle at 10:00am, ready to ride,
unless otherwise noted.

If you would like to schedule a ride, please give June a call and we can
put it on the calendar.

If you would like volunteers for Trail Projects, please contact Paul.

Rides updated online at
http://www.bche-avunit.org/calendar.html

President

Calendar of Events (continued)

July 4, 2017—Tuesday
Ride and BBQ – Members Only
Trail Boss: Kelly

July 19, 2017 – Unit Meeting

August, 2017 – Dates TBD—Pack Trip to Trout Meadow
A beginners’ pack trip; learn to pack from your own members!
2½ - 3 hour ride from the trailhead to the cabin.
Reservations required

September TBD, 2017 – Unit Ride
A pack and lunch ride

September 20, 2017 – Unit Meeting

October 1, 2017 – Sunday
Lazy-T Ride in Leona Valley

November 11, 2017 – Saturday
Veteran’s Day Ride

November 15, 2017 – Unit Meeting

December 13, 2017 – Unit Christmas Party
Potluck and Raffle

Friendly reminder
With this warmer weather, watch out for snakes

This photo was taken on the Dawn Mine Trail on 3/17/2017
(near Altadena)
Club Happenings

Paul Frisbey giving his class on “knotless packing”  Marcy and Muchacha

Sal with one of his award-winning paintings  Kaye Bruns dishing up delicious dutch oven cooking
Backcountry Horsemen of California
Antelope Valley Unit

Poppy Ride

“Jeannie” in April 2010

April 15, 10:00 am

Approximately 5 hour ride near Lancaster

RSVP Marcy at HorsingRound@att.net for location and any last minute changes

Free for BCHC members $10 for non-members

No dogs, no stallions, under 18 must wear helmet
Past President Message

Had fun at Rendezvous this year. I usually enjoy myself. I like running into people I only see once a year; the ones from other parts of the state.

I was happy to see the Outfitters’ Pack Station vendor booth almost right next to where I gave my class (Packing for The Knot-Impaired). They do sell the supplies needed to go “knot-less”.

I had great attendance to my class. My friends showed up, of course. Then, I knew almost everyone else. It’s actually a fun class; I’m sorry if you had to miss it. Without having to teach the different hitches and knots and without having to allow time for students to practice tying the ropes, there is time to share stories. I shared some, the attendees shared some. Yes, there was instruction, but a lot of interesting stories, too.

I gave the class twice. On Friday, after class, the Wilderness Riders had their Annual Round-up. They claim that it’s to “Renew, Refresh and Celebrate our Successes”. They have speeches and give away awards. Then they called some names, including my name. My first thought was: “Now, what did I do?” But I stood up anyway. It turns out they made me “Wilderness Rider of the Year”. Which came as kind of a shock to me. Even the Forest Ranger who presented the prize (a beautiful buckle) seemed surprised to see me. He remembers me from the Wilderness Rider class.

I mean, okay, I do work, I do teach whenever I get the chance. I did submit my volunteer report. But am I better than everyone in the state? Impossible! But I thank them.

As for the rest of Rendezvous, I watched some of the trail trials. I watched the Dutch Oven cooking demonstration by (our former unit president) Kaye Bruns. Wandered around, enjoying myself. As I said, had fun.

I did find out that the road to the trailhead I usually use (Jerky) is impassable. There was a slide and a washout, I guess, and who knows when it will be repaired. Seems impossible to believe it will be open by Memorial Day weekend (which is the day the Forest Service opens the gate to the forest). The alternate trailhead I sometimes use (Lewis) still has 6-8 feet of snow. So, getting to the forest will be a challenge this year. I know I’m not the only one who can hardly wait to go.

I don’t think that I am the only one who tries not to think about the forest during the winter. I mean, it’s hard. I try not to think about going. At least until February. Then there’s Rendezvous in March. In April, I start by making sure my equipment is in good working order. I used to pore over maps and fantasy plan trips. Now, since I usually only go to (Bradley and Emily Miles’s) Cow Camp and nowhere else, I just pine. But in May we can go! Usually...might be June this year.

The first trip is always a work party. We always clear trees and other debris from the trail. Then we make sure that the meadow fences are repaired, if they need it. Set up the tent cabins. Put the plumbing back on line: Water tank on the stove, so we can have hot water at the sink; Put up the cots; Cover the eating area; Set up the shower. With 2 or 3 workers, it takes about 3 hours and “Cow Camp” is ready for the season.

A wet winter means that this will be a fantastic year in the backcountry. As always, I offer to help, teach, instruct, and advise anyone who wants to go.

-Paul
BCHC Membership Application and link to PayPal available at the following link:
http://www.bchcalifornia.org/membership.htm

BCHC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
membership@bchcalifornia.org

MAIL TO: Membership Backcountry Horsemen of California
1280 State Route 208, Yerington, NV 89447

PARENT Unit Affiliation: (Select and CIRCLE ONE Unit as your Primary Unit Affiliation)
Antelope Valley  Kern Sierra  Mother Lode  San Diego  Shasta Trinity
Eastern Sierra  Lake-Mendo  North Bay  Sierra Freepackers  High Country
Los Padres  San Joaquin Sierra  High Sierra  Kern River Valley
Mid Valley  Redshank Riders  Santa Ana River  Sutter Buttes
Redwood  Sequoia  Top of the State

DCTR (your Membership Number, will be assigned): ____________

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

Total Enclosed: $__________ Check No. ____________ (please print legibly)

Email Address: ____________________________

Parent Unit Membership Types: (CIRCLE ONE)
Individual $50.00*  Family $60.00*  Benefactor $100.00  Patron $250.00  Mt Whitney $500.00

* = BCHC shares portion of dues with Backcountry Horsemen of America.

2 year Individual $90.00, 3 Year Individual $125.00: 2 Year Family $110.00, 3 Year Family $150.00

Associate Memberships: AN ADDITIONAL $15.00 PER UNIT is added to your Parent Unit Dues. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP UNIT AFFILIATIONS MAY NOT be for the same unit as your Parent Unit.

Associate Membership for: ____________________________ Unit Name (from above list) $15.00/unit

Associate Membership for: ____________________________ Unit Name (from above list) $15.00/unit

Please write additional choices on back.
Back Country Horsemen of California’s AV Unit was established in 1995, to promote the gentle use of California trails and backcountry.

We offer meetings, seminars, pack clinics, and speakers to groups to educate on access and care of wild lands by equestrians and stock users.

We’re on the web—
www.BCHC-avunit.org

Leave No Trace ... Gentle Use