

REDSHANK RIDERS



An Affiliate of Backcountry Horsemen of California

www.RedshankRiders.com

A group of dedicated men and women working to preserve the historic use of trails with recreational pack and saddle stock.

2010 Officers

Issue 11

November 2010

PRESIDENT

Bob Jones
(951) 445-3890
drumbeat2000@gmail.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

Chuck Streeter
(951) 659-2167
streeter@greencafe.com

SECRETARY

Robyn Prinzing
(949) 293-6602
robyp555@hotmail.com

TREASURER

Stacy Kuhns
(909) 633-1715
stacykuhns@aol.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR & WEBMASTER

Rhonda Strickland
(951) 951-522-8757
redshank.webmaster@gmail.com
webmaster@redshankriders.com

NEWSLETTER CO-EDITOR

Teri Baron

EDUCATION CHAIR

Tom Firth
(951) 551-9711
lecl_hadley@hotmail.com

PUBLIC LANDS/STATE REP

Co-Chair: Pete Spencer
(760) 782-3747
muleman2@wildblue.net
Co-Chair: Tom Firth
(951) 551-9711
lecl_hadley@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Carol Schmuhl
(951) 767-1061
lfeedemandleadem@aol.com

RIDE COORDINATOR

Alison Renck
(951) 763-0374
ali9591@aol.com

HISTORIAN

Carol Schmuhl
(951) 767-1061
lfeedemandleadem@aol.com

ADOPT A HIGHWAY

Robyn Prinzing
(949) 293-6602
robyp555@hotmail.com

President's Message

I don't have a lot to report to you this month and at the moment I am so pre-occupied with the my latest goal at hand that I thought I would share one day of my ride, so far, from my home in Aguanga to my daughter's in Lake Arrowhead. It was a day I certainly will never forget and with your indulgence I would like to share it with you.....

Heartbreak Ridge

The weather report for Oct 18 was partly cloudy with no rain forecasted. For the following day it was "gathering clouds with a 50/50 chance of light rain later in the day".... I had no interest in riding through any nasty weather, but it didn't look too bad so I decided to push on and see what the next day would bring.

On Monday, Oct 18th I started the next leg of my ride from May Valley to Deer Spring which is located 7.5 mi up the Deer Spring Trail above Idyllwild at about 9000 ft. It was a beautiful day and after Ron & Sandy Korman helped me navigate my way through the streets of Idyllwild I said my thanks and started up the trail. The plan was that Robyn would meet me the next day at Snow Creek with more feed supplies for the animals. So far everything was going as planned.....

There were lots of threatening clouds and so when I set up camp at Deer Springs I went ahead and prepared for the possibility of rain.... Good thing I did....I planned to get an early start the next day so after preparing and eating an MRE. I packed up as much as I could in preparation for my next day's 23 mile hike/ride.

The snow started at 4:00AM. It came down hard in pellet form, with 30+ mph gusts. My shelter was small, but I was dry enough for the time being. I stayed bundled up until it got light out and when the storm seemed to let up for a moment I quickly got up and started pouring food to the animals so that they could stay warm too. The



CUERVO looking back asking "which way now boss?"
Cont'd on pg 2



break in the weather was brief and soon the snow pellets started coming down hard again. At this point my shelter was already broken down so all I could do was hunker down with the animals under the pine trees and wait for another break.

That's when the lightning started.... Two strikes were within a couple hundred yards of camp and they shook the ground. The wind was so strong that it drove the snow sideways and it hurt our eyes to look into it. We all stood with heads bowed....About this time I started thinking evil thoughts about all the "Weather Guessers" who, for whatever reasons, hadn't seen this coming

It was interesting how my animals seemed to calm down when I joined them under the trees. We were all huddled very close together and I could actually feel the heat coming off their bodies. It was definitely the best place for me to stand. Before I got in there to huddle with them they had been very jumpy and fidgety, but as soon as I joined them they seemed to accept that we were all in this together and they calmed down. It was certainly a bonding experience for all of us.



LOW BRIDGE ON "HEARTBREAK RIDGE"

At this point I was seriously considering whether to head back to Idyllwild or to go forward. For the time being though I was doing nothing but waiting for the storm to subside..... Finally around 9:00AM I got a break and quickly saddled and packed all the gear, still not knowing what direction I was going to take. That decision was made after I hiked back up to the PCT... I looked both ways... back to Idyllwild or down to the desert??? I hate backtracking so forward I went..... With all the snow and the super rough rocky trail it was way too slippery to ride, so I led the animals down the trail out onto Fuller Ridge.

I have come to the conclusion that the PCT is not really a very equestrian friendly trail and that goes especially for this section. The trail follows a very narrow, rocky ridge. It's only two feet wide in most places, and was very, very steep on both sides. We all scrambled our way down switchback after switchback and after an hour or so we finally started to get below the snowline. I started to ride my horse on some of the less rocky sections....At this point I began to let myself feel like maybe I had whipped the mountain and although it would still be wet at least I would soon be warmer down in the desert.

I was in the Castle Rock section of the ridge when I came to "the tree"..... Not just some average sized tree, but a behemoth that would take a crane to move. There was evidence that the tree had only recently fallen. Freshly broken branches were scattered over the narrow trail with all the breaks showing new looking wood. After a lifetime of over at least a hundred years it seemed the storm that morning had finally ended this trees' reign and toppled it over. The tree was below the trail and had fallen uphill crossing the trail and was now leaning against the large boulders above creating a very low bridge. No problem for a hiker but for the animals there was absolutely no moving forward. No way around, above or below. The terrain was so steep that when I first saw the tree across the trail I instinctively knew that there would be no way around.

Knowing how hard I had worked to get this far, how physically demanding it would be to hike back up above the snowline and then ride all the way back to Idyllwild, I almost cried. I came damn close I'll tell ya. That's why from now on I will always remember Fuller Ridge as my "Heartbreak Ridge" Never before have I been so stopped in my tracks so completely. Somehow I've always managed to find a way around or through, but in this case there was only one way to go..... Back....

Suffice it to say that the next few hours were maybe the most physically grueling in my life. Mentally, I had to break it down into sections and set short term goals for myself. The first goal being to make it back to where I had camped. After that, it was getting across the creek where I had almost had a wreck the day before. Then the 7.5 miles back down into Idyllwild. I was well dressed for the occasion but by this time I was soaked through and through and with temperatures in the 30's the only way to stay warm was for me to get off, give my horse a break and hike for awhile. I traveled a total of about 20 miles that day. Not the longest I've ever ridden, but definitely the most brutal. Long ago, on my 3 month ride from Norco to Jackson Hole, Wy. I never had a day as rough as this one..... In the end I certainly did not beat the mountain that day but at least it had not beaten me either.... I guess we'll call it a draw on this one.... END

Cont'd on
pg 3

After a week waiting for some good weather it looks like tomorrow I will finally be able to pick up where I left off and finish my ride to my daughter's house in Lake Arrowhead. Another 110 miles..... My animals have already proven themselves thus far so I feel confident that we can make it.... All I need is a little sunshine so I'm praying to the Sun gods... Hopefully by the time you read this I will have fulfilled my goal, delivered the birthday presents for my grandsons and be safely home.....Wish me luck... I may need some.

See you all at the

November 7th Turkey/Poker Ride

Bob



THE FULLER RIDGE TWO STEP

State Board Meeting Report Oct. 15, 2010

Public Lands Meeting 8am to 12noon

Goal: Come up with Mission Statement.

Some said it couldn't be done and would result in too much controversy. We did it and it wasn't that bad. No one died in the process. This is the gist of it. We acknowledged that our main purpose is to adhere to the BCHC Mission Statement. This is stated in the Gentle Use guide as follows. "To Keep trails open for the traditional use of Pack and Saddle stock. Now, how to accomplish that laudable goal is the question. We came up with: Use existing Laws such as RS2477, precedent setting case law, and the Coordination Process in assisting the appropriate local Gov't or other officials to bring the Agencies to the table and achieve resolution to our disputes. We also discussed use of the QDMA, a Congressional Mandate requiring Agencies to provide proven Data when they attempt to Modify existing Forest Plans, close roads, trails, trailheads or other actions which impact us. One example would be the Travel Management Plan and the Single vehicle Length Rule which we have been fighting on the Sierra Nat'l Forest. In other words we must always require the agencies to provide the Data upon which they base their decisions and make sure it is valid, or be prepared to dispute it and provide them with conflicting Data and be prepared to back up our allegations with better data. We also received a CD entitled "Gov't to Gov't; Your access to agencies" by Fred Grant Kelly. Fred gave a seminar in March at the Rendezvous. This is a copy of that seminar. I highly encourage any interested members to check this out and use the info to help us keep trails and Public Lands open to all users.

State Board of Directors Meeting 1:15 pm to 5pm

BCHA Report: National Director Mike Murphy

BCHA gave out 2 grants to Education Fund. \$1000 remains to be disbursed. We should apply to get the Funding for the Devils Slide trailhead kiosk.

BCHA has produced a youth Activity Brochure Coloring Book available by calling 417 532 3235. A CD is available of the 2 Public Lands Seminars given by Dennis Daily BCHA's Public Lands Consultant.

American Horse Council reports that Obama Adm. Has signed a bill to give a tax break to first time horse business owners by relieving them of onerous Taxes.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to make a Family Membership include anyone living at a physical address.

Treasurers: Report. Lynn Joiner

Report Given, motion made, seconded and passed by Directors to accept Treasurers Report as submitted.

Membership: Karen Harper our membership is increasing.

Chip and Linda Herzig will be taking over the Membership duties and the address will change as of 1/1/11 to:

BCHC Attn: Membership

PO Box 535

Beaumont, CA 92223

Send checks to above address after first of Year 2011 -- Changes will have to be made to our Membership Pamphlet.

Public Lands Bruce De Mott and Ruth Gerson Co chairs.

At Last the USFS intends to Remove the Purity Concept from their Policy Manual. YEA!!!! We need to watch for this in the Public comment Period and the Federal Register. You do watch the Federal Register don't you ?

Trail Classification Anne Lange

CA has more Nation Forest than any other State. We need to get the Trail Inventory and Trail Plan for our local forests. S'Bdo and Cleveland, old and new and make sure no trails are being removed or down graded for no stock use. Who wants to help out with this? Someone please step up.

Coordination: Resolution and electronic Filing must be the result in Gov't to Gov't coordination, Under Congressional mandate. BCHC Directors Resolution to BCHA to carry to Fed Agencies

We will accept no net loss of roads or access through attrition, rehabilitation or decommissioning. In other words if any of the above are scheduled to take place we want something to replace them. I.e. no net loss. Motion made, seconded and passed. As noted in the PL article above a mission statement and goal was formulated and agreed upon by the Unit PL Chairs.

Work Hours: Volunteer Hours must be submitted by Jan 31st 2011 to Carey Johnen . Please keep track of your hours ,miles, etc and lets get them in on time for the credit we all deserve for our hard work and diligence. This year we have been very productive and can only get the recognition we deserve if we REPORT our HOURS. Go to the BCHC website to find a link to the Report Form.

Wilderness Packing Skills Calendar: If you have pictures you think might merit inclusion in a Calendar Please submit them to Lisa Deas by Nov. 15 2010. I know it's short notice but lets get something in from our unit. We all have those little cameras now with lots of pictures. Someone must have something good. Her address is on the BCHC website.

BCHC Newsletter is Going Green: Please help out if you can by giving your email address and receiving the State Newsletter by email. This alone could save the BCHC at least \$12,000 a year. Money better spent getting our message out in other ways. The Newsletter will still be available to those who have no high speed internet access on the printed page.

BCHC Travel Site: Check out zamzoo.com for shopping and if you purchase through the BCHC website link we can get up to 20% of the purchase price sent to BCHC.

Education Fund: If we would get of our butts and go out and solicit Tax deductible donations to the Education Fund ,Eventually BCHC could operate off the interest like other foundations and Charities do. The greatest problem BCHC has is raising enough money to stay solvent. This is why we all need to support Rendezvous. If we did this Rendezvous could be smaller , possibly more local and much less stressful. Anyone up for this?

State Board Directors: Motion Made seconded and passed to notify State Directors by postcard of 45 day Notice, which will then be accessible on the BCHC website.

Unit Insurance: In response to lack of Surplus in State Treasury a motion was made, seconded and passed to continue current policy of having Units pay their own insurance for another year. This issue will be revisited yearly at the Fall S.B. Mtg. to decide whether we need to continue this Policy or whether the State Coffers can take nit back over. Cost will continue to be \$4.00 per member at this time.

Youth Recruitment: It has been noted that the face of BCHC is aging. We need to get some new and younger blood involved. Any ideas or anyone interested in the job. 4H or FFA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts or High school Environment Clubs were suggested as possible contact groups.

Rendezvous 2011: Rendezvous will be held next April 1,2,3 in Redding Ca. Units are eligible for booth space depicting past years accomplishments such as BMW, CRHT, and other areas of involvement. Booths are free as long as we are not selling anything. Perhaps we should be thinking about something we could sell such as a BMW map or Trail guide. Let's get out there and show them what we got. We really have some unique winter riding and we should be promoting it.

Rendezvous Wine and Cheese Tasting: Always a favorite on Sat. before dinner, this year there will be room for 700 people. This event raises a significant amount of money and is a great social mixer. Not to be missed. In addition this year the Sat dinner will seat up to 500 people and be open to the public. Get your Registration package in early and don't miss out.

CSHA has already sanctioned a Trail Trial if you are so inclined. It should be a good one, Hopefully to include a pack string class. Units are encouraged to sponsor a trainer.

Suggestions are needed for kid oriented activities. Send to Lisa Deas . Email address on BCHC website.

Redshank has once again volunteered to help with the Raffle. See Pete Spencer for Tickets, win a Round Pen or a Pack Trip and learn to pack with Craig London of Rock Creek Pack Station out of Bishop Ca. Tickets are \$5ea. Or 5for \$20. I have 100 hundred tix. If we and every other unit sold them all our BCHC money woes would be much reduced. Please help out. Imagine learning how to pack on a trip in the Sierras with a highly accomplished packer and D.V.M. Save up your questions. What more could you ask for ?

Motion Made seconded and passed to adjourn. 5pm

Unit Reports: 5pm to 6pm

Each unit got 5 mins. to detail their accomplishments this year. Some good ideas were put out there for all to aspire to, our Units as well. More on this at a later date.

Submitted by Pete Spencer
State Board Director for Redshank Riders Unit BCHC

Redshank Riders October 14th Meeting Minutes

Location: Little Red School House

18 Attendees

* Discussed Turkey/Poker Ride

Location switched to Pebbles/Mike Lewis home

\$ 10.00 for dinner, \$ 5.00 per poker hand, Pebbles to run poker game.

Carol Schmul will sign up new members

Dave Potter and Greg Bruce to cook turkeys

Robyn to do Potatoes, rolls, green beans, pie, and dressing

Lemonade, Tea, Coffee, Water

Robyn, Stacey, Pete to work on raffle prizes

Awards for first three hands, cash from poker hands, \$ 50, \$25,\$15

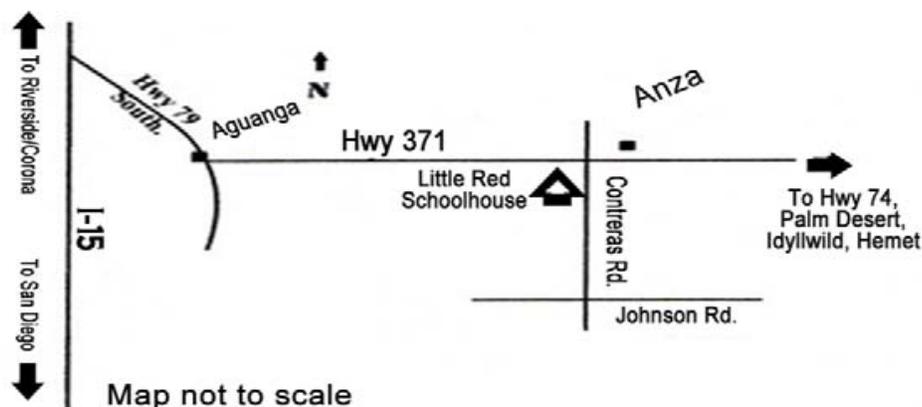
Date is re-set for Sunday, the 7th.

Audrey came up with flyer for event

- Work party for Anza Borrego clean up flyer in newsletter
- Pete Spencer going to State Board Meeting
- BMW map co-ordinate presentation of it to dept. with Bob Jones Nov. 5th?
- Audrey discussed Trails committee meeting, assigning various people to specific areas to ride and GPS. Allison in contact with Laurie Dobson
- California Wilderness Coalition contacted us, working on time to meet with the rep. Monica Argamdon
- Need to set date for November Freeway clean up and get volunteers to help
- Chuck Streeter met with directors of Cornerstone Therapeutic Riding in Ramona and discussed their new riding program that benefits new veterans. They have a needs list. This list needs to be linked to our website and Facebook page.
- Ray Barmore discussed trails at top of Santa Rosa Mtn. and need for gate to be set up to keep Jeep groups out of wilderness area. Need for signs and possible camp area.
- Ron Korman discussed recent seminar and need to eradicate evasive Tamarisk. Destructive water user, non native, ways to choke it out of area.
- FS budget cut, need for continued volunteers, Pot bust above Happy Valley
- Need to have waivers pulled for ride, must be signed, Stacey to order portable toilet for ride.
- Have change of venue posted on RR website, Facebook, and reminder e-mail to members
- Treasurers report, our bank account looks very good, best in years.

NOVEMBER MEETING

Thursday November 11 at 7:00 pm
Corner of Hwy 371 & Contreras, Anza



Map not to scale

Download
Full Directions at
www.RedshankRiders.com

Reminder

Trails Committee Meeting is November 14, 2010 at 3:00pm at Allison Renck's house at 52090 Elder Creek Aguanga Ca. 92536. Anyone besides committee members are welcome to attend, please notify Allison at 951 663-5452 if you will be attending.

Thank you, Allison Renck

Volunteer Spotlight

One of the best things about being with the Redshank Riders this year has been the friends I've made. One of those new friends has stood out all year long, selflessly volunteering his time and expertise to the extraordinary packing effort this group has made this year supporting the BLM, Forest Service, PCTA, and the San Diego Natural History Museum. Mike Lewis is a quiet, modest man who may resent the attention that this recognition might bring, but he has only brought it on himself by giving so much to this group, the different groups he helped support, and to his community.

Tentative Event & Ride Schedule 2010

November 2010

Nov 6th - Lake Cahuilla Ride 10:00 AM
 Nov 7th - Redshank Riders Poker Ride - Turkey Dinner (see pg 7)
 Nov 11-14 Borrego Project (SG Unit)
 Nov 14th - Redshank Riders Trail Committee Mtg. 3:00 PM

December 2010

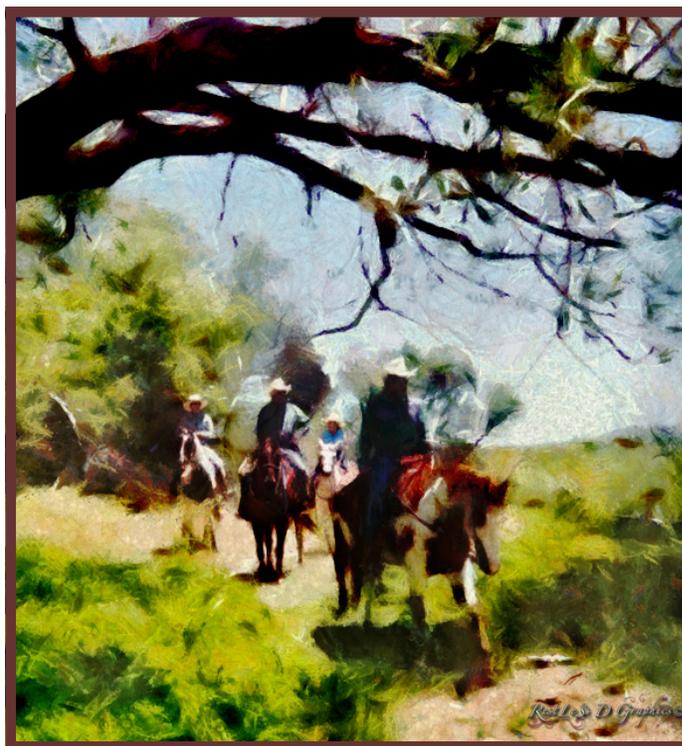
Dec Redshank Riders Meeting & Elections - Date TBA

Ride Coordinator: Allison Renck (951) 763-0374

Mike's many talents and his excellent character makes him someone you want to emulate and hopefully I learned a thing or two from Mike working with him this year. Not only is he an expert packer and horseman, he is a natural born leader. Someone who instills confidence and who makes you comfortable to follow..... Thanks for everything you've done for us this year Mike. You're the best and I'm proud to have ridden with you. Anytime you're ready to lead, I'm ready to follow.....

Gratefully Submitted by

Bob Jones





Backcountry Horsemen of California

REDSHANK RIDERS

www.redshankriders.com

TURKEY POKER RIDE AND DINNER

And membership drive

Sunday- Nov 7, 2010

Hosted by

**Mike and Pebble Lewis Home
52820 Elder Creek Rd, Aguanga**



\$15.00 gets you: Turkey Meal and one poker hand

New members that sign up at event...FREE meal

Extra Poker hand \$5.00

Ride out 10:00 am Registration starts at 9:00

Bring your chair....Water for horses available

Prizes, Raffles

*Please call and let us know if you will attend...so we can get a count for food
Contact: Robyn Prinzing 949-293-6602 Robynp555@hotmail.com*

Directions: From Temecula take I-15 to Hwy79 South (Indio) left onto Hwy 371(Anza/Indio) Turn right on Bradford, curves to left and becomes Tule Peak. Pavement will end at Hernley, Turn Left on Hernley (dirt Road) go 2.4 miles and follow signs

From Hemet: Take Hwy 74 up to the mountain to Hwy 371 toward Anza. Go thru Anza. Turn left on Bradford, follow same directions as above.

**Riders under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. All 17 & Under riders must of written consent of parent or legal guardian. Helmets must be worn by all Minors.*

Must be a BCHC member to ride

No Dogs or Stallions... No Ponying Horses except for Pack animals

2009 RAFFLE PRIZE DONORS

The Living Desert - Palm Desert
RL Saddle, Ron Lawson - Garner Valley
Tom Call Horseshoer - Anza
Dr. Roberta Zajac, Veterinarian -
Aguanga
Kay & Diane Klieber Gourds - Hemet
Ray Barmore Horseshoer - Pinyon
Elmore's Welding - Anza
Café Pauma at Casino Pauma - Pauma
Dana Conklin, Artist - Garner Valley
Susan Gonzalez, Artist - Garner Valley
Kristie's Pet Grooming - Anza
Laura's Hair Corral - Anza
Lorraine's Pet supply - Anza
Dr. Fred Zadick, Veterinarian - Anza
Dry Stall Products
Rancho Vet Supply - Hemet
Wild Wild West Hay Sales - Mt. Center.
Pony Express - Idyllwild

Veterycin Wound & Infection Treatment
Army/Navy Surplus Store - Temecula
La Cocina Mexican Restaurant - Anza
Anza Valley True Value Hardware - Anza
WW Feed & Supply - Hemet
REI Outdoor Equipment and Clothing
Outlaw Hay & Grain - Anza
Roadside Café - Anza
Melody O'Driscoll - Coast & Country Real
Estate
Tackwest - Temecula
Lydee Scudder Jin Shin Jyutsu Treatments
- Garner Valley
Integrity Feed, Star Milling - Perris
Ace Hi Feed, Star Milling - Perris
Horse Connection - San Bernardino
Cynthia Triplett, Artist - Warner Springs
White Hawk Winery - Warner Springs

Please support our Sponsors

2011 Rendezvous in Red Bluff, CA on April 1-3rd, 2011

It's Never Too Early to Start Planning

Tehama District Fairgrounds ~ www.tehamadistrictfair.com

650 Antelope Boulevard, Red Bluff, CA 96080-2470

(530) 527-5920 (530) 527-5920

Jerry Tindell and Matt Sheridan will make an encore appearance!! We will continue to have Kids Events all during the Rendezvous, hope and plan to have much more vendor participation, BLM Adoptions, our famous Wine & Cheese event, Western Art Show, Gentle Use Classes, Trail Trials, Pack Scramble, Dutch Oven Cooking, and so much more!!

We welcome your comments/suggestions to continue to improve our event and make it a worthwhile trip for all Equine loving families.

Please go to www.BCHCalifornia.org if you would like to volunteer, offer suggestions on the event or classes you would like to see presented, or any comments in general. We want to hear from you. New members, we encourage you to visit our website often and consider joining us in Red Bluff or contact a local unit and see how you can contribute to our mission!

BCHCalifornia.org

What is Everytrail.com?

Everytrail.com is a trail website that is great news for those of us who strive to document and promote our equestrian trails. It's a trail map site, but more than just maps! On the website there are trails listed with maps and pictures from all over the world. You can search for trails by the country, state or activity. I discovered Everytrail.com by accident when I got a GPS, but my "old computers processor" wouldn't support the maps, so in an effort to find a website that would, I stumbled upon Everytrail.com! I signed up! It's free!!!!... I can download my GPS'd trails, place pinpointed pictures and videos on the maps and make my trails public! Trails can then be downloaded to people's personal GPS devices and they can follow the trails! People can follow all your posts and you can follow theirs. There are descriptions of the trail, ratings and a comments section. And the best part...You can post on your facebook, blog or e-mail to friends and clubs to see the photos and maps of your trails even if they don't have a GPS! WOW! How fun is this!

"GPS'ing" is getting more and more popular with all the new devices and phone applications, but storing your GPS trail maps on your computer doesn't publicize them for others use the trails. Keeping our trails open will become harder and harder in the future and this website is a great tool to help with that effort. Use the trails or loose them. Everytrail.com solves this issue of publication, and its fun to see other Equestrian's trail trips and pictures! Trail Riders; go to the site and find a new trail and go ride it!

I urge all who have GPS's to join this site and start downloading some trails. Mike Lewis has started using Everytrail.com; he has some great trails of the BMW, Cahuilla Mountain and his Sierra Trip too. There are others in our areas that are using it now too. I sure have fun with it! Go check it out! Let me know what you think of it!

I wish I owned stock in it! I sound like a salesman for it!

Julie Murphy

www.everytrail.com -



Agunga, Ca 92536

P.O. BOX 383

BCHC

Redshank Riders



REDSHANK RIDERS TURKEY POKER RIDE

Sunday, Nov 7th
See inside for Info

