

2015 Officers

Issue 3

MARCH 2015

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Redshank Riders
P.O. Box 383
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Hello Redshank Riders,

With January and February winding down and March looming, we have gotten a great start to 2015. Ongoing trail projects along with prep for coming events are in full swing.

Tom Firth continues work on BMW trails and has been recruiting a lot of outside help. Cathy Firth hosted our first ride in the Beauty Mountain

Wilderness and a great ride it was. With drinks and pastry at the trail head, it was a perfect day for a ride.

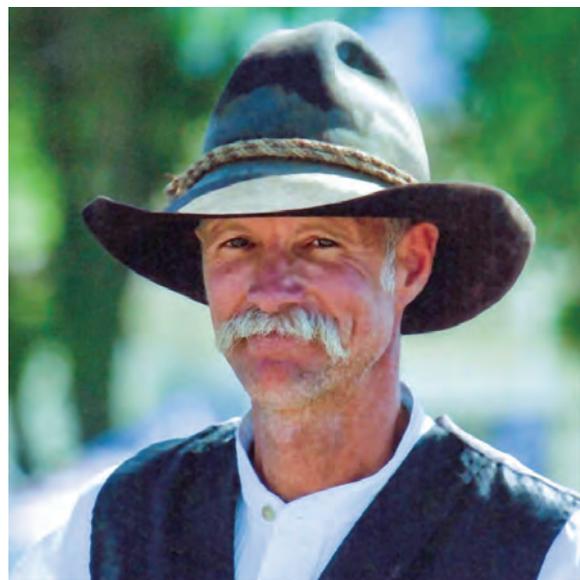
We had 5 folks that were first timers in the BMW and this ride was a great introduction. Tom Firth even joined in and gave us some facts (and perhaps fiction) about the area. Next ride on the calendar will be Sloan Lake with Greg Bruce as Trail Boss (see flyer on page 4). Greg has put a lot of work into this ride so let's all join him.

We also have some packing dates coming up on Mission Creek. The PCT will be sending out an American Conservation Experience (ACE) in April to work on the trail. Check the RSR calendar for dates. We are also beginning work on the Trail Trials (see info on page 2) and it's looking like it will be a big time. We're really looking forward to it. Stay tuned.

I end with a saying I have adopted "*Of all the paths you take in life, make sure a few of them are dirt*".

Your President

Michael Lewis



CSHA Two Day Trail Trials

Date & Time: Saturday, May 2, 2015 7:00 AM thru Sunday & May 3, 2015, 6:00 PM .

Host: Stumblin L Ranch
52820 Elder Creek Rd.,
Aguanga, CA

Description: Two day CSHA sanctioned Trail Trial. Take a trip to the country and try your hand on some great obstacles in a natural trail setting. There will be dry camping, catered Saturday dinner, entertainment, raffle prizes. There will also be a limited number of pens available.

Directions: From Hwy. 371, go south on Bradford Rd. Turn right on Tule Valley Rd., just before the pavement ends make a left on Hernley Rd. Go 2.4 miles to ranch on left. Hernley turns into Elder Creek Rd. Look for signs.

(flyer coming & will be emailed out)

Rattlesnake Avoidance Clinic for Dogs

2015 Rattlesnake Avoidance Clinic for Dogs held in La Cresta, on April 11 & 12

For more info Contact Elin Motherhead

Appointment Coordinator

elinmotherhead1@verizon.net

(Not a BCHC event)



Just Right Horse Dentistry

951-514-9999

Greg Bruce

Star Milling Co.

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Trip to Lion Peak

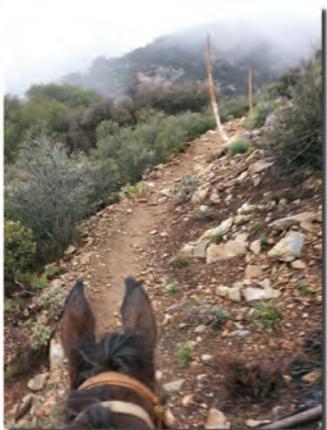
It started out as an ordinary day. It was a bit chilly but good riding weather. The report came in that there were a number of trees blocking the PCT in the Lion Peak area; a few small trees south and a large one right on the face. The decision was made that we would take the Cedar Spring Trail from the north and a small crew would come in from Penrod Canyon from the south and meet somewhere in the middle.

We arrived at trail head, loaded up and started up the trail. As we ascended it appeared we were riding into a fog blowing in from the north. Danny's words to me were, "It'll burn off when the sun gets higher". The further we rode the more I realized this would not be the case. We hit the PCT and headed south, pushing through wet brush and picking our way down the trail through the fog.

Then it appeared out of nowhere, our hazard tree, passable by hikers but not riders. Already soaking wet, we dismounted, pulled off our gear, and kicked the mules out into a small meadow just off the trail. After sizing it up, we went to work clearing the debris from around the tree, sawing off the branches, and then finally removing the tree itself. Cutting it into manageable pieces, the trail was cleared in no time.

About then some of the crew coming from south showed up. They had cleared the other trees. Then, out of the fog, three hikers came down the trail. They had come in Cedar Spring Trail and were headed to Hwy 74. Not the best day for a hike but they were dressed for it. Here is where it gets interesting. As we were finishing up loading the gear a couple of gals, dressed in shorts and light tops, come out of the fog hiking south. Both Danny and I just looked at each other and starred. Here we are, dressed in winter coats, long handles, gloves, scarves, with our hats pulled down to our ears and they are dressed for a sunny hike in the hills. Come to find out, they were down from Canada to do some winter hiking where the weather was warm. Go figure.

Finally they headed south and we got ready to go north. That's when I realized my riding mule had disappeared. Knowing she did not go back the way we came, I started to take the trail South. Walking at first I didn't see or hear her, I sped up to a trot and finally caught a glimpse through the trees. Then it was an all-out run to catch her. Thankful for a long lead rope, I caught her and headed back. I guess she wanted off that ridge more than we did and was following whoever was moving. The trip down was cold, wet and windy with some snow flurries thrown in, but uneventful. Hats pulled down and tipped towards the wind we finally got off the ridge, down Cedar Spring Trail, and back to the trailers.



All and all I would call this a good trip. We accomplished what we started out to do and came back with a story to tell.

Remember, "The worst day riding is better than the best day working".



Story
&
Photos
by
Michael Lewis

RIDE TO SLOAN LAKE

REDSHANK RIDERS / BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA

Ride Level Description

Level 3

-Not recommended for the inexperienced rider or green horse.

-recommend shoes for horses hard and rocky areas.

-Horse should be somewhat fit although we can rest as needed.

-We will begin at about 5200 ft. and riding up to about 6400 ft. in elevation

-Total ride is about 10 miles.

- We can ride to some beautiful lookout areas once at the top.

Pre ride notes:

-2/19/15 Lake was dry but lower pond had water

-took us an hr. and a half to ride up and about the same down.

-weather was perfect.

Saturday March 7th

Meet at Goff Flat Trail head at 9 am.

Ride out at 10 am

Optional overnight at Goff Flats Trail head. Dry camp

Directions:

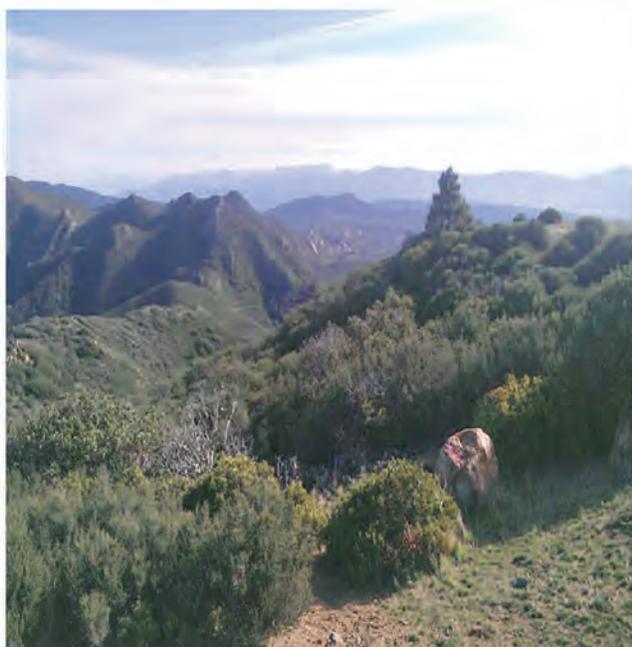
- From corner of HWY 371 and HWY 74 go north west on HWY 74 towards Garner Valley for 3.4 miles
- Turn right on Morris Ranch rd. (fire station) go 2.6 miles.
- You will see the power lines and a closed gate on the right.
- Go through and close the gate.
- Go down gravel road about 300 yds. turn right to trailhead.
- You can put Goff Flat, Mountain Center into Google maps or map quest for a visual, it will bring you right there.

Hosting: Greg Bruce
951-514-9999

RSVP would be nice but not necessary

**This is a
Backcountry
Horseman
member ride.
Memberships
available at
trailhead**

\$60 /yr. family
\$50/yr. individual
\$15/yr. young adult
(18 to 25 yrs. old)



March 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7—Sloan Lake Ride
8	9	10	11	12 -RSR General Meeting	13—Annual BCHC Rendezvous	14—Annual BCHC Rendezvous
15—Annual BCHC Rendezvous	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Upcoming Events (Some dates may be tentative)

Mar 7- Sloan Lake Ride—See page 3 for flyer

Mar 12- 7 pm RSR monthly meeting at the Little Red School House in Anza. Open to the public. Check for updates, meeting may be at member's house/ranch.

Mar 13-15- Annual BCHC Rendezvous, Calaveras Camp in Angel's Camp, CA.
www.FrogTown.org and www.bchcalifornia.org/rendezvous.htm

April 19- Redshank Riders open packing clinic—52820 Elder Creek Rd,
 Aguanga, 92536, CA

May 2-3- CSHA Trail Trials—52820 Elder Creek Rd, Aguanga, 92536, CA (see page 2)

At the Little Red Schoolhouse ~ Anza
 ~ Thurs. March 12th ~ 7 PM
General Meeting

Agunga, CA 92536

P.O. BOX 383

BCHC

Redshank Riders



***Objectives and Purpose of the
 Backcountry Horsemen of California***

from the BCHC Bylaws



- To improve and promote the use, care and development of California backcountry trails, campsites, streams and meadows; to advocate good trail manners.
- To promote the conservation and utilization of our backcountry resources in concert with livestock transportation.
- To keep current information before the Corporation membership and its local Units regarding new legislation or management plans related to government regulations of the backcountry.
- To support or oppose new proposals, plans and restrictions as related to the interest of horsemen and those persons interested in recreational stock use and enjoying the backcountry.
- To promote the interest of people who, due to health or physical factors, need transportation other than by foot on backcountry trails.