

2016 Officers

Issue 4

APRIL 2016

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President's Message for April!

Well here we are getting into spring with some days that feel like summer and the next like winter.

We supported the Santa Ana River unit with their Packing Clinic and what a great success. Mike Williams and his wife Sigrid had it planed out to the minute. The program started with a great video they put together. Then all dispersed to 5 different stations where everyone got to try their hand at the Box and the Diamond hitch. The highline demo was also enjoyed. The clinic ended with a live demo around the round pen. After that all the clinicians had a round table on what was good great and what needed improvement. I for one am looking forward to our clinic in the fall.

The Sloan Lake ride was a bust (sort of) it was extremely windy at that elevation that morn and very cold. With a poor turn out we decided to have a do-over on a better day. Trail angel Mary suggested we stop at Paradise Corner and we found it less windy so she suggested we ride south on the PCT to her house, enjoy our lunch there and then ride back. What a wonderful ride. I didn't know Anza had its own Grand Canyon (not a mile deep but spectacular). The highlight for me was what Mary had set up for the hikers at her home; picnic tables, water, snacks, first aid, stuff a hiker might need and coolest of all a Trail Library where you can take a book, trade a book, and mail it back to her when you're finished. I also contained a shelf full of local reference books not to be checked out. It's about six and a half miles south on the PCT from the Paradise Corner Café. Definitely worth the ride.

Pay attention and join us for the next ride; we will be venturing into the Beauty Mountain Wilderness. Flyer with info is later in this newsletter. Packing opportunities are here, Yee ha! I'm so looking forward to hitting the trails.

Don't forget to get **signed up for the Texts** from Rhonda so you don't miss any adventures. Thank you so much Allison Renck for stepping up and leading the committee for the Poker ride.

Don't squat with yer spurs on;

See ya on the Trail,

Greg Bruce



Redshank Riders Meeting Minutes (draft)

Thursday, Mar 10, 2016

Location: The Little Red Schoolhouse

Meeting called to order 7pm

Attendance: Greg Bruce, Dallas Lauzier, Robert Drewery, Susan Gonzalez, Hail McCreight, Ed & Mary Ann Puett, Susan Blankenfeld, Michael Lewis, Cathy Hawn Firth, Thomas Firth, Carol Schmuhl, Rosie Grindle, Gretchen & Jack Peckham, ??? Potter, Allison Renck, Ken Leach

Old Business: Secretary's report - approved as corrected by Allison and second by Pebbles

Treasurer's report 2) Treasurer's report - Allison Cornell is away so Carol Schmuhl gave report...Beginning balance was \$5,581.20, revenue of \$116.00 and Expenses of 206.64 for and Ending balance of \$5,490.56.

Historian's Report: No activity for the Historian's Report

Public Lands: Allison Renck:

- Sierra and Inyo Kern - Management Forest Service Plans are being drawn up. Go to their website to see when their Public meetings will be. San Jacinto plan will also be coming up soon. Allison is to email us all the link so we can read and comment. It is important to do this as we are loosing Yosemite Park
- Tom - Education - June 4 and 5 for Train the Trainer Course at Fobes. They will try to keep the cost around \$25/person...16-hour course with a 1 year membership for Leave No Trace.

Membership Report: Carol Schmuhl - 64 total memberships (90 total persons, 20 families, 29 individuals, 4 associates and 1 patron)

- One new member last month
- Most expiring members are renewing

Rides: No report Cindy not present

- Sloan Lake ride hosted by Greg - pre-ride was done and the 9.5 mile trail ride takes about 5 hours. Not a beginner ride and horses need to be in shape. March 26 at 9am.
- Pre-ride for April Broken Bone/Million Dollar trail has been done. Hosted by Cathy Firth. Horses need to be in shape. Not a beginner ride. New trails. April 23. Meet at Tulle Trail but Cathy will follow up with more details.

Adopt-a-Highway: Cathy Firth—9 folks helped pick up the entire 4 miles. Next event will be in June.

Kiosk: Mike Lewis - at Beauty Mountain. Map and information will be on one side and some information about Anza on the other side.

Fundraisers:

- difficult to do the food for the Arts event for Ricardo

Brecceda. We do not have food handlers' licenses or experience nor do we know how many people will attend the event, so the unit will pass on the opportunity as a fundraiser.

- Poker Ride in Fobes or Bradford were ideas for locations. Locations, dates still to be decided. Allison Renck will chair. Rosie and Cathy and Mary Ann to help Allison.
- We will be attending the event as a unit with a booth on Saturday, April 30...10am to dusk. Need volunteers = Carol, Greg, Pebbles and Allison. There are paintings and a statue being donated for the raffle.
- Rendezvous check is being mailed. Stacy said that the 2017 Calendar vote was close...but that it did pass to continue future calendar sales. The point was made that our unit needs to start the sales sooner so we don't miss out on the first few months of the benefits on the calendars.

Web Tech/Newsletter Editor: Rhonda - Text list – Greg Bruce asked that we all send Rhonda our cell phone numbers. (Update, Rhonda has heard from about 5 people for the Text List)

New Business:

1. Mike Lewis - trail adoption of a 3.5 miles section of the PCTA. The trail is now a national closure but lies between Fobes Saddle and Cedar Spring trails. Motion to adopt by Jack Peckham and second by Ed Puett. The AYES had it.
2. Fence at Beauty Mountain was cut by motorcyclists and the motorcycles are now accessing these hiking/equestrian trails. They are also piling up rocks to gain access to horses on the trail. Mike Lewis had some ideas for new fencing and modifications to the horse gates to keep the motorcycles out. Parking area needs to be improved as well.
3. Silver Saddles area - growers closed trails on his property. Research is being done to ask for an easement. The problem arises because the easement was not transferred at the time of subsequent and more recent property sales. In the 1950s there were the California Riding and Hiking Trails but many of these easements that our trails touch are not being transferred during sales.
4. Ken Leach has been talking with the Rancho California Water Board to open the trails from 9-5 so equestrian riders can hike to the dam. The water board wants a vendor to manage the campground prior to improving the trails. They also have the Sun Dance property; which used to be an equestrian and camping park. The board needs a vendor to lease this area and manage it for them. They are speaking to a Mike Willard about a 50-year lease who wants to create a shooting park, equestrian and camping parks to include trails. They would like to connect Wilson Valley Road to Sage Road to Temecula to Lake Elsinore. Rancho California Horsemen (Ken Leach), RSO and the Military are all proponents of this project. The water district would like to complete the lease soon (mid-March) or they will open it up to a national vendor search. Most

(Continued on page 3)

Meeting Minutes (draft) (Continued from page 2) -

possible vendors would not be equestrian friendly and Ken would like the Redshank Riders to agree to send a letter to support Mike Willard as the leaser. We could ask this Mike Willard to dedicate the trail for equestrian use. Ken and California Horsemen will draft a letter in favor of Willard getting the lease. Willard's wife is a horseman so Ken feels he will be incentivized to keep the park horse-friendly. Ed Puett moved that we write the letter and Gail McCreight seconded. The AYES had it. Allison Renck said that once the letter is drafted that she would share the letter with the Southern California units to try to get their support as well.

5. Cowboy Days - Susan Blankenfeld - May 14 - fund raiser for Cottonwood School art and music program. Tom Firth was asked to MC. Greg Bruce was asked to give a Mounted Shooting exposition. Redshank Riders was asked to have a booth. Local artists and vendors are invited. Susan moved that Redshank Riders have a booth at the event and Ed Puett seconded. The AYES had it.
6. Mike Lewis - Sept. 17 - Riding the Res. – SAVE THE DATE
7. Mike Lewis - Pack Clinic in the fall at Carol Schmuhl's place. Still working on a date

Motion to adjourn by Ken Leach and seconded by Ed Puett. Greg called the meeting adjourned

EVENTS COMING UP IN 2016

April 6-8 - California Trails and Greenway Conference. BCHC will have a booth here also and folks are needed to help share the information at the booth. This event is sponsored by California State Parks every year at a different location and this year it will be locally in the Riverside area.

April 23 - Tule Trail Head Ride – See page 5 for ride details.

April 23 - NATRC for a moonlight ride – See page 6 for ride details.

April 30 - Celebrate Anza – See page 7 for event details.

May 26-29 - Mule Days in Bishop - if you have never been to this event you are really missing something. BCHC will again have a booth and be part of the Saturday parade.

June 4 - National Trails Day – More info will be available as the day draws near.

Attention All Redshank Riders Members

Come to Redshank Events and be entered to win prizes and money at the end of 2016

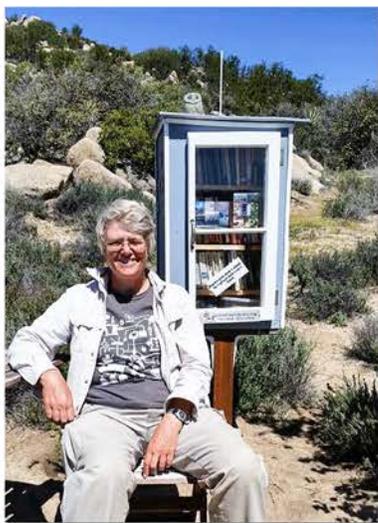
It's easy to get involved!

At every Redshank Event there will be tickets available, put your name on that ticket and you will be entered to win.

Tickets will be available at all events. These include; highway clean-up, monthly meetings, monthly rides, work parties, fund raisers and pack-ins. So come on out to help and you may get something a little extra special at our year end Christmas party.

 WELCOME NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS 

Dan & Jackie Hare



There's Something About Mary

OutWest Tales, Thomas J. Firth

I live in an area of Southern Calif, (the San Jacinto Mountains to be specific), where a pretty good stretch of the Pacific Crest Trail passes through. It is also an area where water can be tough, if not impossible to come by. Scattered along the length of the PCT, all 2650 miles of it, there are people like "PCT 145 Trail Angel Mary". The PCT hikers greatly appreciate Trail Angel Mary's generosity in supplying water, a safe area to spend the night, and the trail library where hikers can swap out books to keep them entertained. Mary is also a PCTA trail crew volunteer, hiker, equestrian & Back Country Horemans member, lover of the outdoors, and a former philosophy professor, although I try not to hold that against her.

Thanks, Mary, for all you do.



Speaking of Mary: Celebrate Anza, April 30

Mary is holding the Third Annual Celebrate Anza event at her property along the PCT in eastern Anza on Saturday, April 30, from 11:30am-3pm. You and your family are invited to attend. This event is a great opportunity to meet PCT thru hikers for an extended bbq lunch on what should be the height of the hiker season. If you are thinking you might attend, please RSVP by filling in the form at

<http://pct145trailangelmary.com/2016/02/18/date-for-celebrate-anza-set-april-30/>

More info about parking, etc. will be provided to people who RSVP.

Based on thru hiker permits issued by the PCTA, this year promises to be another bumper-crop year for hikers attempting to walk from Mexico to Canada along the Pacific Crest Trail. I hope to see you there,

Mary

(Not a BCHC event)



April Ride

Date: Saturday, April 23, 2016.

Time: Saddled and ready to ride out at 09:30 am.

Ride host: Cathy Haun Firth

RSVP: 951-763-0405 (Cathy)

Length of ride: 4 hours. Bring water and lunch

Level of ride: 3

Description: We will be riding five of the Beauty Trails, one of which is brand new, scenic, your horses and mules should be in relatively good shape, great conditioning ride, steep in areas, will stop as needed to rest our stock. No water at Trail head. Horse gate at entrance to trails.

Meet at the Tule Tail head

Directions: From 371 turn onto Bradford heading SE, turns into Tule Valley Rd. at (pavement ends, life begins sign), turn (L) onto Evening Star Rd., Turn (R) onto Carrot Ln., turn (R) onto Deer Springs Rd., bends hard left approx. 3/4 mi. to BCHC posted parking sign on (L).



You are invited to join NATRC for a moonlight ride Saturday, April 23 in through the rural countryside rolling hills above Temecula Wine Country. Enjoy great views of the Temecula Valley and surrounding areas.

Date: Saturday April 23rd

Time: Riders to leave camp at 8:00pm for 5 mile ride

Dinner available at 6:00pm

Dessert after ride (approximately 10:00pm)

Cost: Ride - \$5.00 per person; BBQ Dinner - \$5.00 per person

Where: 39245 Geisbauer Rd., off DE Portola east of Glenoaks Rd.

What to bring: Something to drink, chair, dessert or snack to share after the ride

RSVP: By April 17 to Mary Jo Malone mjm92592@gmail.com



Open to all (membership in NATRC not required)

Overnight camping available

We will be riding on hard packed dirt roads. Elevation change of 400 feet over 2.5 miles.

Directions: From Temecula, drive north east on DE Portola Rd. to Glenoaks Rd. (or Rancho California Rd to Glenoaks to left on DE Portola Rd.) Continue past stop sign at DE Portola and Glenoaks. The blacktop changes to dirt road in about ½ mile. At approximately 1 mile from the stop sign at Glenoaks, turn right on Geisbauer Rd. Camp will be on the right in approximately ¼ mile.

**Also, there is still time to enter the
NATRC Region 2 Spring Fling Competitive Trail Ride!**

April 22-24, 2016

Two Day "A" Novice, Open and
Competitive Pleasure;

One Day "B" Novice-Saturday

One Day "B" Novice-Sunday

Moonlight Ride Saturday Night

REGISTRATIONS ARE LIMITED - SIGN UP EARLY!

Join us for a fun filled weekend of challenging horsemanship and camaraderie. Come Ride With Us!

A Competitive Trail Ride is a timed and measured distance-riding event on well-marked trails. All breeds of equines are invited to compete.

This is a sport that welcomes newcomers with open arms. If you are new to Competitive Trail Riding, we invite you to come and ride in the Novice Division. Our more seasoned riders are available to act as mentors to help you get started in our sport. We invite you to come and ride in the Novice division on Saturday or Sunday. The ride is timed at a walk. Or, join us Saturday night for a moonlight ride in the hills above the Temecula Valley.

Don't let the idea of "Competition" keep you away either. **The REAL idea is to come have fun with your horses for a weekend!** Bring a friend to ride or just to help.

For more information, contact Mary Jo at mjm92592@gmail.com or 951-966-5709.

****ASK ABOUT OUR SPECIAL FREE MEMBERSHIP OFFER****
(Not a BCHC event)

April 2016

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 General Meeting 7pm	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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(Not a BCHC event)

General Meeting

~ Thursday April 14th ~ 7 PM
At the Little Red Schoolhouse

Agunga, CA 92536

P.O. BOX 383

BCHC

Redshank Riders



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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.