



2016 Officers

Issue 1

JANUARY 2016

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Outgoing President's Message:

Hello Redshank Riders,

With 2105 on the way out and 2016 upon us we will usher in a new year with a first time RSR president, Greg Bruce along with some new and returning officers and committee heads. Greg and his family have been members for a number of years and continued to take more active roles. With Greg comes new enthusiasm and new ideas. Remember, the board cannot do it all on their own, it takes help from all members. Our goal should be the same, protecting our trails for ours and future generations. We are not just a riding club but a diverse group of individuals with different passions and different abilities. Weather it is just trail riding, work parties, packing, educating the public, or just the social aspect; it takes everyone to make this unit as successful as it has been. That being said, this past year has been pretty successful. Our spring pack clinic was well attended; the two day obstacle challenge was a big success with quite a few trail rides, trail work parties, and pack support trips. I look forward to the upcoming year and plan to assist Greg and the rest of the unit in any way I can. I look forward to seeing everyone at our first meeting of the year on 14th. We will be discussing our yearly budget along with planning this year's rides and events. Let's see if we can make this our best year yet.

Your 2015 President, Michael Lewis



Incoming President's Message:

Howdy everybody,

As your new president I would like to share a little bit about who I am. My life with horses goes back at least three generations on both sides of my family and is continuing into the next generations through my daughter Ali, my nephews and my nieces.

My Grandfather on my Dad's side was seldom seen off his horse. He ran plus or minus about one hundred head of horses, always buying and selling with the improvement of the herd in his mind. With his sons, my father and my uncles, they would trail drive the herd from town to town for the rodeos in southern Alberta. My Dad and his brothers eventually headed down the

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rodeo circuit and my uncle Winston won the world saddle bronc riding in 1959. He later became the general manager of the Calgary Stampede and the Stampede Ranch where he continued the breeding philosophy of my Grandfather. To this day you can trace some of the bloodlines of the Stampede stock back to my Grandfather's stock in the early 1920s.

My Grandfather on my Mom's side raised and raced thoroughbreds. Mom and her sisters grew up riding competitively in shows and rodeos as well. My aunts continued to



barrel race at a professional level and held the titles of Stampede Queens and Miss Rodeo Canada. When my Grandfather died, my Mom took over the ranch and that's where my brother, sister and I were raised.



We grew up helping with all aspects of the ranch including handling stallions for breeding, foaling out mares and doing the early training of the young stock for the track. My sister attended Pony club and became an excellent dressage rider. My brother and I tried our hands at riding Broncs and wild horse racing in the Rodeo. My Mom at 78 still rides weekly and earns enough team penning to pay her way. My brother owns and operates Hillside Acres, a horse ranch where he puts on weekly competitions of penning, sorting and Gymkhana. He also regularly puts on clinics with his buffalo where you can learn the patterns of herd movement to enhance your cattle working ability.

I moved to California in 1985 and horses continued to influence my life. For a while I owned a small Arabian racing stable. I continue to compete a little in penning, sorting, gymkhana, and mounted shooting with the love of my life Susan and daughter Ali. Trail riding in the back country has always been big in my life.



The past few years living here in Aguanga we have found a new passion in packing through the Redshank Riders. We have learned so much so it is my turn to give back for a while.

I am pleased to meet all of you. Let's have a "Just Right" year.

Sincerely, Greg Bruce

Please Welcome Your BCHC
Redshank Riders 2016 Unit President

Redshank Riders Meeting Minutes Sunday, Dec 20 2015

Location: Potluck/Christmas Party held at Garner Valley Commons

Meeting began at 1:00 PM. President Mike Lewis called the meeting to order. Meeting sign-in sheet passed around, 37 members in attendance.

Secretary's report: Secretary not present, no minutes read from November meeting.

Treasurer's report: Gail McCreight—Balance \$6681.20

Membership: Carol Schmuhl reported: total memberships 60, 80 people; membership is down, but not uncommon this time of year.

Trail Development & Maintenance: No report at this time

Education: In Allison Renck reported on Warner School Presentation that Stacy Kuhns, Tom Firth, Audrey Turpin and Mike Lewis did and it turned out very well.

Newsletter: Rhonda Strickland reported that she wasn't able to do a monthly newsletter every month this past year. This year she needs more content submitted and pictures, so anyone who wishes to write something up please do.

Adopt a Highway: Cathy to assign dates and announce at next meeting.

Public Lands: No report at this time

Trail Ride Report: Cindy Hay—No report at this time

Old Business: Carol Schmuhl brought up Beauty Mountain Kiosk/sign at Tule Peak Trailhead and funds for its construction. She made a motion to fund this and Susie Blankfield seconded the motion. The motion passed to fund it.

New Business: Audrey Turpin brought up the need to have a banner/sign with the 7 principles of "Leave No Trace" for

display when unit goes out to educate horsemen and the public. Audrey Turpin motioned to spend \$100.00 and it was seconded by Stacy Kuhns. The motion passed to fund this banner/sign.

Allison Renck brought up a project the High Country Conservancy is working to get a grant for on habitat enhancement for the Quino Checkerspot Butterfly. They have asked Redshank Riders to partner with them. Members discussed possibility of providing help at work parties. Members consensus was this would be something they'd like to take part in. Allison will follow up on this for future work parties.

Mike Lewis asked for a round of Applause to thank Ron Lawson, his wife, Pebbles Lewis and Susan Gonzales for putting the Christmas Party together.

President Mike Lewis outlined the Redshank Riders slate of Officers for 2016 and asked for other nominations.

Nominees were:

President –Greg Bruce
Vice President- Mike Lewis
Secretary- Maryann Puett
Treasurer- Allison Cornell

The slate of officers accepted, their nomination and were voted in by the membership present at the meeting, per Redshank Riders By-Laws

Committee Chairmen were appointed and accepted appointment and they include:

Education Co-Chairs Stacy Kuhns and Tom Firth
Public Lands - Allison Renck
Membership/Historian - Carol Schmuhl
Newsletter Editor - Rhonda Strickland
Ride Coordinator - Cindy Hay
Adopt a Highway - Cathy Firth

Stacy Kuhns reported that there will be an officers training for all officers and any who are interested on January 16, 2016 from 9-3 in Pedley/Riverside. It will be a round-table discussion with officers from all southern California units in attendance. Lunch will be a \$10.00 taco plate.

Gail McCreight reported that there are still BCHC calendars that need to be sold, please see her for your calendar. Mike Lewis reminded everyone there are still raffle tickets for the rendezvous that need to be bought, please see him for the tickets.

Motion to adjourn made by Stacy Kuhns, second by Ed Puett, meeting adjourned at 2:40pm



EVENTS COMING UP IN 2016

January 16 - **Officer's Training**—Jurupa parks rec community center building 4810 Pedley Road, Jurupa. 9-3.

February 5-7 - **Horse Expo** - BCHC will have a booth there so why not volunteer a few hours and then see the rest of the event.

March 18-20 - **Annual Rendezvous** will be at Angles Camp again. Check the state web site for details. The 2017 Rendezvous will be in Bishop and planning will begin this spring.

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.

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.



Would any of our members be interested in sponsoring a ride in your favorite area. We have members throughout the county and many of us would really love to see other areas.

If you would like to sponsor a ride please contact our ride coordinator, Cindy Hay at (760) 831-9106 or cndhay@hotmail.com. Plan to join us at the monthly meetings which are always held on the 2nd Thursday of the month @ 7pm at The Little Red Schoolhouse in Anza. A Map and Directions are at our website:

www.RedshankRiders.com



“Diamond and Dandy” share the spotlight at Warner School Presentation

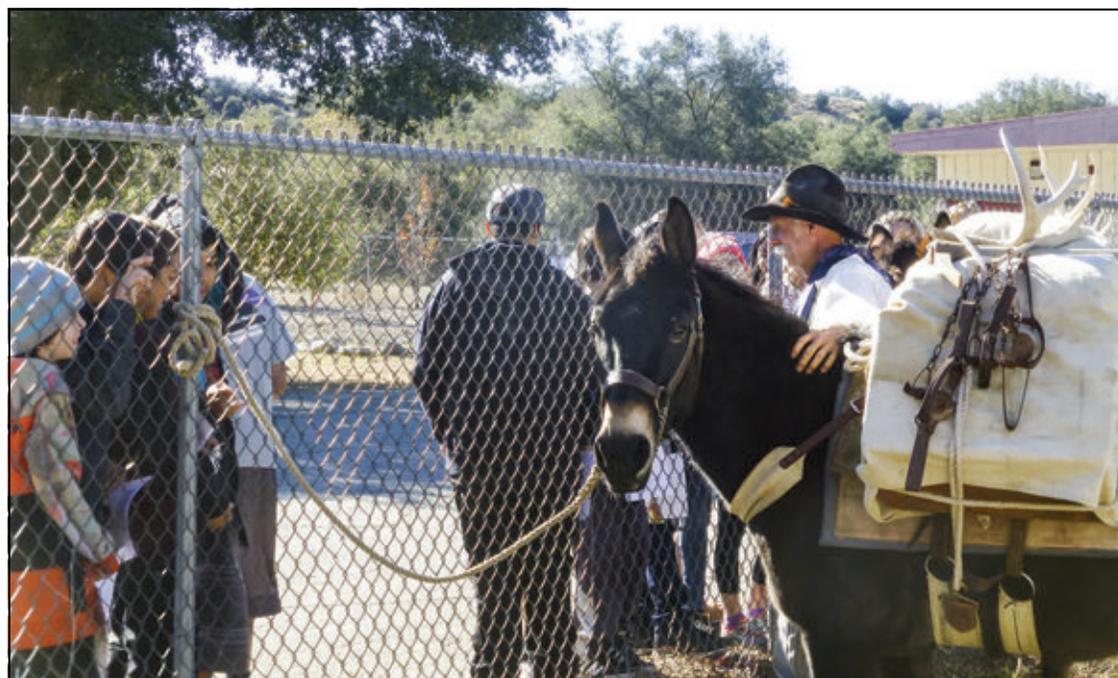
Submitted by Allison Renck

Two Hundred and twenty students at Warner School, located in Warner Springs California had the opportunity to have some contact with stock and to learn some “Leave No Trace” principles on November 18, thanks to our own Redshank Riders; Mike Lewis, Audrey Turpin, Stacy Kuhns, Tom Firth and Allison Renck. Our unit was invited to participate in an outdoor education school program. The program was funded by a US Fish and Wildlife Service Grant. This grant



Tom Firth, Stacy Kuhns, Audrey Turpin and Mike Lewis

program which was applied for by Warner Community Resource Center member Pam Nelson was based on getting people outside into the forest. The program highlighted subjects such as; geography, nature, wilderness, outdoor skills and preparedness, which the students would learn with outdoor “hands-on” activities. Pam Nelson reported the grant theme was based on using the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) as an educational tool, since the school lies adjacent to it. The PCT is a long distance trail of over 2600 miles which travels from Mexico to Canada through the United States. The grant teaching workshops have occurred weekly from September 2015 to November 2015 and included activities such as; learning about the PCT, hiking the PCT, learning about animal tracks, and learning about local flora and fauna. The grant included providing all the students with the proper equipment to day hike on the PCT and this equipment was provided from the local Sierra Club.



Mike Lewis talking to the students about mules

The Redshank Riders used the Warner Community Resource Center which is leased from Warner Springs Ranch owner, Pacific Hospitality Group as their outdoor classroom, since it is across the street from the school. Since our unit follows the BCHC mission to educate the public and horsemen on the

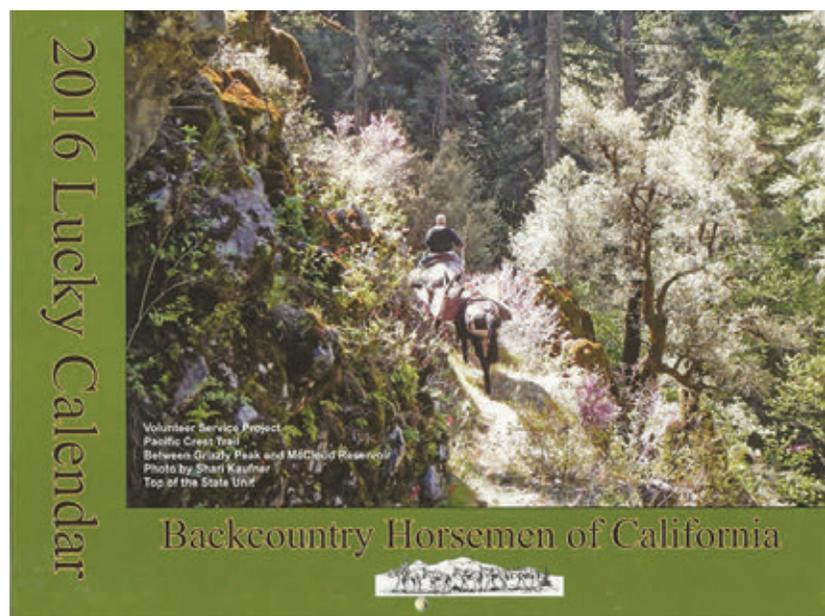
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proper way to preserve our natural resources and to preserve the historical use of stock in the backcountry. Our own BCHC Wilderness Riders; Stacy, Audrey and Tom and Redshank president Mike Lewis and member Allison Renck worked before the event to prepare a presentation that highlighted this mission

Mike Lewis brought his mules “Diamond and Dandy” to use as visual aids in showing the children how stock are packed and what type of equipment Mules can take into the Wilderness to help keep trails open for use. The mule “Dandy” showed a historical pack representation of what mules might of packed in the 1800’s to early 1900’s. Tom Firth answered questions about mules and their usefulness and general questions on the equipment used.

Stacy Kuhns, Audrey Turpin and Allison Renck , presented on the historical use of mules in the United States and the seven Principles of “Leave No Trace” The program was presented in different ways to benefit the different age groups of children. The presentation was given to approximately 220 students at Warner School. The ages included 3-18 year olds, since the school has grades pre-kindergarten to seniors in high school. An outdoor camp was included, which was placed under oak trees. Stacy Kuhns and Audrey Turpin used the camp for “interactive” teaching and encouraged the students to become involved by participating in various activities.



Still Time to Buy Your 2016 BCHC Lucky Calendar

Your 2016 Lucky Calendar Raffle ticket enters you into:

215 drawings for amounts ranging from \$50 to \$3000 in 2016.

Drawings are held every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday; the last day of every month and the first and last days of the year. Winning tickets are returned to the drawing pool for all subsequent drawings.

Lucky Calendar Raffle tickets are \$25 per ticket.

If you would like to purchase a 2016 Lucky Calendar Raffle ticket, please contact your unit Secretary: Allison Cornell (see contact info on front page of this newsletter).

JANUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14—General Meeting	15	16—Officer's Training (see pg. 4)
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



The 2016 Rendezvous will be held on
 March 18, 19, & 20, 2016
 at the Calaveras Fair Grounds
 (www.frogtown.org)
 in Angels Camp, CA.



At the Little Red Schoolhouse

~ Thursday JANUARY 14th ~ 7 PM

General Meeting

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.