

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.

2009 Officers

Issue 06/07

JUNE/JULY 2009

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Message from the President

Hi Fellow Equestrians,

On page 3 & 4 is a Letter I submitted to the Hemet Parks Commission and with some editing will send out to Trailblazer Magazine and Mtn. Bike Magazine and other applicable venues.

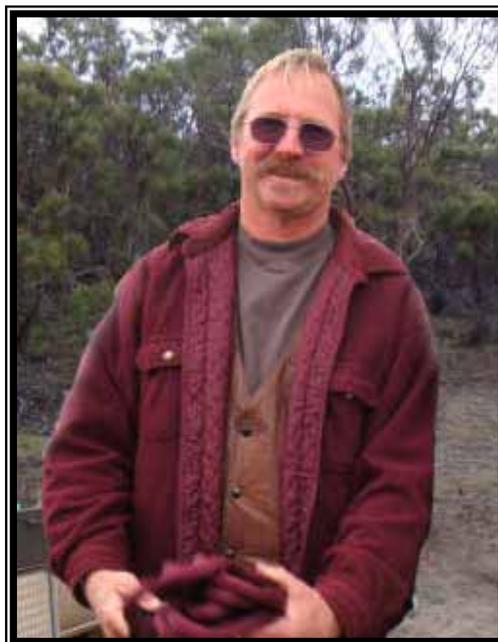
It addresses a growing sentiment among the Mountain Biking Community that Equestrians should be excluded from the Trails we either built or have been riding for years. This I have seen building up for at least 10 years. Unfortunately equestrians are in the minority in our fast paced world of technology. Because of this we want to just continue doing what we have done all along. There is a saying. If you choose to do the same thing you have always done, don't be surprised if you get the same result you have always gotten.

The playing field is changing, and we must change with the times if we want to have access to trails to ride on. If you sit idly by and don't get involved the decisions will be made for you. Whether this is about your access to trails on horseback, your right to travel freely or your 2nd amendment right to bear arms, or arm bears. You better see the writing on the wall and get involved.

Simpson Park in Hemet is just the first salvo in the war between equestrians and those whose goal is to go as fast as they can, and damn you if you get in their way. If we don't stop them now, eventually we'll be just more dust in the history books. Personally I will do my part. Will you step up to the plate? The storm clouds are a gathering. Are you running for cover or screaming you defiance to the world?

I will keep you posted on Upcoming activities and look forward to your support.

Your President,
Pete Spencer



REDSHANK RIDERS UNIT GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING.

Unit Minutes For Monthly Meeting

June 11, 2009

The Little Red Schoolhouse
Meeting called to order at 7:15 pm
by Pete Spencer, President

Roll Call

Board Members in Attendance

President / Public Lands: Pete Spencer	Secretary, Paula Bellisi
Trail Development/ Maintenance: Laurence Peabody	

Members in attendance

Pauline Costi	Gail McCreight
---------------	----------------

REPORTS:

President - Pete attended the San Geronio unit's treasure hunt at Fobes Ranch where he met Janice Radditz. Janice and her horse are traveling the Pacific Crest Trail. You can monitor their progress on the website. There is a joint work party with the San Geronio unit June 19th - 21st at Black Mountain

Vice President- Audrey Turpin Not Present-No Report

Secretary: Paula Bellisi: Minutes approved as published in newsletter.

First: Pauline Costi

Second: Gail McCreight

Treasurer: Stacy Kuhns: Not Present-No Report

Membership: Teri Baron: Not Present-No Report

Trail Development & Maintenance: Laurence Peabody: Laurence found himself as the lone worker for the May 16th work party at Cahuilla. Anyone interested in working on the trails can contact Laurence, he will be happy to help.

Adopt a Highway : Position still open -

Public Lands: Pete Spencer - No Report

Education - Allison Renck, (not present)

Newsletter/Website -Rhonda Strickland: Not Present

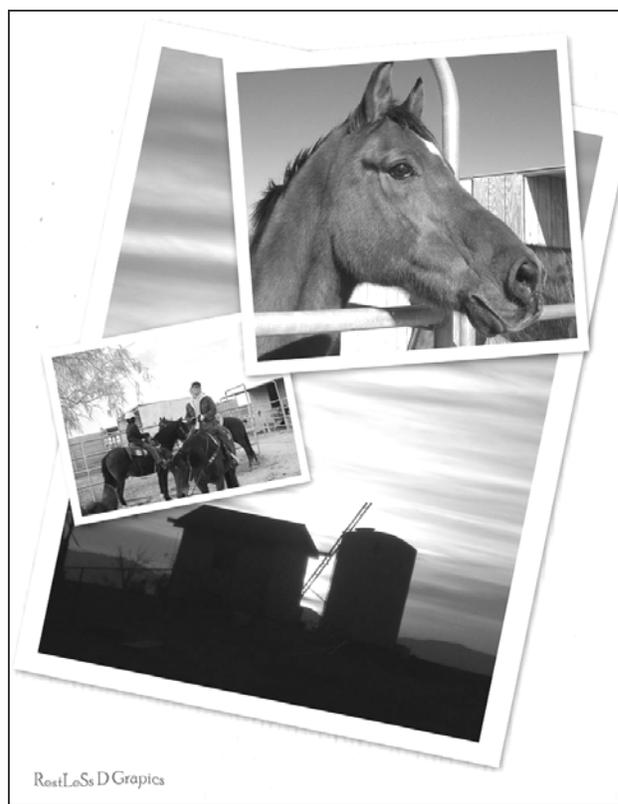
Historian - Carol Schmuhl - (not present)

Event Development - None

Old Business - None

New Business - Lawrence Peabody showed us one of the 13 signs that Hamilton High School students made. Mr. Robert Riegle's woodshop class made signs that read "California Riding & Hiking Trail". Each student signed the back of their sign. They will be placed around the valley at different points of the California Riding & Hiking Trail. A thank you letter and certificate of appreciation will be sent to Hamilton High School's Principal June Allard, woodshop teacher Robert Riegle and the kids who worked so hard and did such a wonderful job on the signs. Keep an eye out--we will be submitting an article to both the Valley News and Anza Outlook thanking Hamilton High School and encouraging everyone to make use of the CRHT.

Meeting adjourned 8:15pm



Trail Use Issues: Mountain Bike Vs. Equestrian/Pedestrian.

History:

1. Pedestrians. Makers and users of trails since man became bi-pedal.
2. Equestrians: Man has used horses as beasts of burden and mode of Transport for at least 5000 years.
3. Mountain Bikes: Invented late 1970s bikes have become increasingly popular as a form of Recreation, tool for fitness and toy for Extreme Sports. Like everything in our modern world, technology has elevated the Mountain Bike to levels of capability unforeseen at the time of its invention.

These capabilities consist of:

1. More gears, ability to climb steeper terrain and access more difficult terrain.
2. Better Brakes, ability to go down steeper terrain at higher speeds with somewhat higher Levels of Control.
3. Suspension. Similar to Motorcycle suspension, has the ability to soak up bumps and allow the rider to go much faster downhill without crashing.

The result of the technology advance is a much higher level of User Conflict between Mtn. Bikes and Pedestrian/Equestrian trail Users. In addition a marked lack of courtesy among younger Mtn. Bike Riders with a penchant for speed, is adding to the conflict. To be short and to the point the real problem here is **Speed Differential.**

In my opinion the logical way to address this is to allow access to incompatible User groups on separate days of the week. Perhaps the following Schedule would work for everyone equitably.

Sunday, Monday Tuesday, Equestrian/Pedestrian Use only.

Wednesday Pedestrian use only.

Thursday, Friday, Saturday Mountain Bike use only.

As long as all user groups abide by the schedule, this seems like an equitable solution. In addition I believe the park should be opened up regardless of the fire season. If it is going to burn, there is just as good a possibility that it will start somewhere else or on one of the adjoining properties. It behooves all users to be fire safe in order to continue their chosen form of recreation.

In regard to so-called Erosion issues brought up by the Mtn. Biking Community:

1. Mtn. Bikes by their very construction are Rotating Linear Erosion Creators, causing rutting as they roll. The aggressive tread patterns of their tires chew into the soil in the attempt to gain traction. This results in a shearing action by the driving wheel. As the wheel maintains contact with the ground at all times the result is a continuous rut caused by the wheels. This is exacerbated when the soil is wet from rain, a favorite time for mountain bikers to take to the trails.
2. Horses and Pedestrians on the other hand land with staggered footfalls which do not make linear ruts, with the following exception.

Heavy use by any user group causes rutting, especially with an increase in slope angle. This must be mitigated by conscientious effort to place trails in lower slope angle configurations and more frequent trail maintenance.

This is probably not what Mountain Bicyclists prefer, as it limits their speed and ability to get some Air.

3. Some reference has been made to keeping equestrians on roads and letting the bicyclists have the trails to them.

Because of their desire for higher speeds, it seems more appropriate to limit the bicyclists to roads with a wider tread, so they can more safely negotiate blind curves and jumps. Horses have always used single-track trails and are more suited for them because of their very lack of speed.

4. Reference has been made that the Equestrians should go to the Diamond Valley Lake area. From a sanitation standpoint Equestrians should be as far from water sources as possible. This, in spite of the fact that studies by U.C. Davis have concluded that horses have no pathological manure content that is harmful to humans. With the amount of land available around the Lake, it makes much more sense for the Mtn. Bikes to go there and develop trails, Jumps etc, and be able to be unrestricted in their pursuit of speed.
5. One additional thought regards Wildlife. People on horseback commonly ride right up on deer and other wildlife. There is no fear in wildlife because they perceive horses as just another prey species and they disregard the human on the horses back.

Contrast this with the reaction of flight common when wildlife is approached by Mtn. Bikes or pedestrians. Animals see Mtn. Bikers with flashy bikes and gear as Predators and flee. This is hard on the wildlife as their prime directive is to acquire and conserve energy.

Cont'd from page 3

This instinct is hard wired into horses as well. It can be overcome to some degree with proper training. However a Mtn. Bike and rider coming at speed and sliding sideways to a stop will probably result in the horse's instinct to flee coming to the fore. If this is done on purpose it must be considered as an assault and dealt with as such. Common trail courtesy dictates that horses have the right of way, followed by pedestrians, and then Mtn. Bikes. This means Mtn. Bikes yield to all other user groups. The accepted method has always been to stop, dismount and step off to the downhill side of the trail. Speaking to the passing horse reduces their fear that you are a predator. It is the Bicyclists responsibility to look out ahead and be prepared to stop 50+ feet away from the horse and rider. This requires a speed that allows for this.

Perhaps an apt analogy would be to have the Mtn. Bikes get on a MX course with the motorcycles at the same time and see the results of the Speed Differential on those two User Groups.

Pete Spencer - President
Redshank Riders Unit
Backcountry Horsemen of CA

Biography: Outdoorsman 45+ years.

Climber, Mountaineer, Kayaker, Raft Guide and all around environmentalist.

Mountain Biker and Equestrian last 25+ years. I am a student of the outdoors and a keen observer of tracks and nature. This has led me to the conclusions outlined in this article.

Perhaps this can open some more dialogue between the conflicted parties, leading to a solution we all can live with.

Money Well Spent

Well fellow horse people things do happen, even when we feel as though government wheels turn real slow. For the last 2 years I have been working with Mr. Ken Graff of the Western Riverside County, Regional Conservation Authority (RCA). With his help I have mapped trails that are on these conservation lands in the Aguanga Area. Some of you have seen these maps and if anyone is interested in seeing them I still have copies of them that I gave to Mr Graff. Well this year our unit voted in its budget to ear mark some funds to help the RCA put in a horse gate on one of these trails so hikers and horses can still pass through the property. So a month ago our Unit purchased \$181.00 of lumber and the RCA Rangers have installed this gate.

The horse gate is located in the Tule Peak Area. If any of you know where Tule Peak and Gold Rush intersection is, just ride to the top and you can ride through the horse gate and continue on the trail.

And what makes this even better is that there are other areas where we can donate lumber and have horse gates installed also. We don't even have to break a sweat at a work party. I'm so excited!!!!!!

I also want to say thank you to Johnny Garcia, who is an RCA Ranger that patrols the RCA properties. He has been really helpful and has shown me all over many of these RCA properties. So if any of you see him in his Dark Green Truck, give him a Big Hello and talk at him. (He's kinda quiet and reserved, probably because he is a military reservist, but he warms up after he gets to know you.)

Well that's it from your Education Chairperson

Allison Renck Ali9591@aol.com

If you attended the San Gorgonio Unit Treasure Hunt ride and want to view pictures from that event here is a note from the photographer Amy Holland:

Below is a link for viewing/purchasing the photos (the password is horse and you do not need to enter your email address). All of the photos are high resolution, and you can order a variety of sizes at very reasonable prices. All photos will be printed on quality photo paper.

The photos are 'grouped' chronologically, so if you were the first into the area where I was photographing (around 11:30 A.M.), your photos will appear first.

Link: <http://www.Baymoments.com/EventLogin.aspx?sid=139018>

Amy Holland

Idyllwild Photography

<http://www.idyllwildphotography.com>

REMOVAL OF AN OBSTRUCTION ON A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY

"[W]hen a highway is unlawfully obstructed, any person who wants to use it [the public road] may remove the obstruction, and may even enter upon the land of the party erecting or continuing the obstruction, for the purpose of removing it, doing as little damage as possible." 18 Wis. at 267.

PUBLIC NUISANCE PER SE

A public nuisance is an unreasonable interference with a right common to the general public, such as a condition dangerous to health, offensive to community moral standards, or unlawfully obstructing the public in the free use of public property. Black's Law Dictionary 1095 (7th ed. 1999).

As in the case of the obstruction across a highway, and an unauthorized bridge across a navigable watercourse, if he has occasion to use it, he may remove it by way of abatement.

Case law dating back to the late 1800's establishes a well-articulated principle of law that where there is an obstruction across a public right-of-way which obstructs the travel of an individual, the obstruction is a nuisance per se, and the affected individual may remove the obstruction by way of abatement.

SYLLABUS BY THE COURT

1. A public nuisance is an unreasonable interference with a right common to the general public, such as a condition dangerous to health, offensive to community moral standards, or unlawfully obstructing the public in the free use of public property.
2. Where there is an obstruction across a public right-of-way which obstructs the travel of an individual, the obstruction is a nuisance per se and the affected individual may remove the obstruction by way of abatement.

§731.5. Action to Enjoin Closure of Public Trail.

Whenever any person unlawfully closes any public trail, any person who uses such trail or would use such trail, and any association, corporation or other entity whose membership as a whole is adversely affected by such closure may bring an action to enjoin such closure.

The prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorney's fees, in addition to court costs.

As used in this section, a public trail is any trail to which the public in general has a right of access; which right is established pursuant to a recorded document conveying to a political corporation or governmental agency, specifying the nature of such public trail, specifically describing the location thereof and naming the record owners of the real property over which such trail exists, if created by a license, permit or easement. It includes, but is not limited to pedestrian, equestrian, and boating trails, but does not include any public street, road, or highway. Leg.H. 1979 ch. 682.

"The true theory of abatement of nuisance is that an individual citizen may abate a private nuisance injurious to him, when he could also bring an action; and also, when a common nuisance obstructs his individual right, he may remove it to enable him to enjoy that right.

THIS

ILLEGAL
OBSTRUCTION
 ON PUBLIC-LAND / ACROSS PRIVATE-PROPERTY
 IS POSTED FOR COMMON-LAW
ABATEMENT AND REMOVAL



“GET JUBILANT IN JULY WITH THE COWBOY JUBILEE”

- Location:** Murrieta, CA
- Organization:** Santa Rosa Plateau Foundation 3rd Annual Cowboy Jubilee Music Festival
www.srpf.org
- Contact:** Ginger Greaves, (909) 732-2209, srpfjubilee@aol.com

The Cowboy Jubilee returns to the Santa Rosa Plateau and the City of Murrieta for the third year on *July 24 and 5*, and all the stops have been pulled to make this the biggest, baddest, bestest Jubilee ever.

The festivities begin on *Friday* morning with a walk to the historic adobe ranch and Native American site on the *Ecological Reserve from 8 AM - 12 PM*. Jubileers will then move on to the Murrieta Stud Ranch for a colt starting demonstration by JD Equine at 4 PM followed by a *supper and silent auction from 5 - 7 PM*. *Entertainment starts at 7 PM* featuring The Billys comedy and music group direct from Disneyland’s Golden Horseshoe Stage and the DooWah Riders who have been playing high energy country with a Cajun twist for over 20 years.

On *Saturday, July 25*, the fun begins with the *Jubilee Trail ride from 8 AM to 11 AM*. Participants can then move down the hill to spend the rest of the afternoon at the Ranch and Cowboy Music Street Festival in Historic Downtown Murrieta. Featured there will be entertainers Joel Reese, the passionate voice of ageless entertainment, and Chrystal Portillo who sings country and Christian numbers. The street festival will feature demonstrations, displays and depictions of the ranching and cowboy way of life including cowboy poetry.

The Jubilee ends on a high note (pun intended) with the *Music Roundup at the Ranch beginning at 5 PM* and featuring the talents of Sons and Brothers, a Colorado family/acoustic/western/ bluegrass /gospel band and Grammy nominated entertainer Don Edwards. Dinner and artisan displays will round out the evening’s activities all of which will take place at Liberty Oaks in Tenaja.

MORE

Tickets for the individual activities can be purchased at the Santa Rosa Plateau Foundation’s web site, www.srpf.org, the *Visitor’s Center at the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve located at 39400 Clinton Keith Road in Murrieta*, and at the *Temecula, Wildomar and Woodcrest Ace Hardware stores*. Additional information regarding the events and entertainment can be found there as well. Individuals can also call the Jubilee Hotline at 1-800-369-4620.

The Santa Rosa Plateau Foundation sponsors this and other events to raise funds for the children’s education program at the Ecological Reserve. Approximately 8,000 students per year from 65 local schools in seven school districts get to spend morning learning about the natural world and associated outdoor sciences under the guidance of Park interpreter Rob Hicks and many hard-working volunteer docents. Your ticket purchase will help ensure that funds will be available to continue this worthwhile program.

July 2009

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Santa Rosa Plateau Cowboy Jubilee	25 Santa Rosa Plateau Cowboy Jubilee
26	27	28	29	30	31	

★★★★

UNIT MEETING

Thursday
August 13th
6:30 PM

Redshank Riders Monthly Meeting

★★★★

August 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 <u>UNIT MEETING</u> <u>6:30 Pm</u>	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Have you got pictures from a ride, an upcoming event, a great animal story or joke that you would like to share in the newsletter or website? Your input is always appreciated!!

Email me at editor@redshankriders.com

Rhonda
Newsletter Editor & Webmaster



Update your bookmarks - the BCHC site address is:
www.BCHCCalifornia.org

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MAIL TO: Backcountry Horsemen of California
PO Box 1610
Oakdale, CA 95361-1610

membership@bchcalifornia.org – (866) 748-2033

PARENT Unit Affiliation: (Select and CIRCLE ONE Unit as your Primary Unit Affiliation)

- | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Antelope Valley | Kern River Valley | Mojave River | Redwood | Sequoia |
| Caballeros del Sol | Kern Sierra | Mother Lode | San Diego | Shasta Trinity |
| Eastern Sierra | Lake-Mendo | North Bay | San Geronio Pass | Sierra Freepackers |
| High Country | Los Padres | Ohlone Riders | San Joaquin Sierra | Sutter Buttes |
| High Sierra | Mid Valley | Redshank Riders | Santa Ana River | Top of the State |

DCTR (your Membership Number): _____ (For new memberships, will be determined by Membership Coordinator)

MEMBER'S NAME—No Business Names; Print Clearly _____ **SPOUSE / Co-MEMBER'S NAME—MUST SHARE SAME ADDRESS** _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code (full 9 digits, if known) _____ Area Code _____ Phone _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____ Check No.: _____

Parent Unit Membership Types: (CIRCLE ONE)

Individual \$40.00* Family \$50.00* Benefactor \$100.00 Patron \$250.00 Mt Whitney \$500.00

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

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: _____ \$15.00/unit
Unit Name (from above list)

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

Please write additional choices on back.

Please clip form along dashed line.

REDSHANK RIDERS RIDE FLYERS AT OUR WEBSITE:

If anyone wants to download a flyer for an upcoming Redshank Rider ride you can find it on our website at:

www.RedshankRiders.com/rideflyers.html



UNIT MEETING

Thursday

~ August 13th ~

Time: 6:30 PM

The Little Red Schoolhouse



NEWSLETTER: Email Troubles?

Just a quick note from your webmaster/newsletter editor regarding receiving the newsletter via EMAIL. As time goes by things change. If you are having difficulty in opening and/or viewing the Email Newsletter the solution may be as simple as updating your PDF document reader. Below is the website address where you can go to download the latest version of Adobe Acrobat Reader.

<http://get.adobe.com/reader>

There is also a link at the website just below the JOIN REDSHANK RIDERS link.

2008 RAFFLE PRIZE DONORS

True Value Hardware Hemet	Casino Pauma Pauma	Los Caballos Veterinary Hospital Dr. Dennison	Star Milling - Integrity, Ace-Hi, Kelley's
Outlaw Hay & Grain Anza	Anza Valley Hardware Anza	Spartan Vet Services Dr. Zajac	Round-Up Feed Wildomar
Big Horse Feed Temecula	Anza Village Market Anza	Tom Call Horseshoeing Anza	Kahoots Feed & Pet Supplies Murrieta
The Living Desert Palm Desert	371 Diner Anza	Steve Silkotch Horseshoeing Anza	Dana Conklin - Artist, Garner Valley
Paradise Corner Café Garner Valley	Lorraine's Vet Supply Anza	Janae's Hair Cottage <i>Laura Bussell</i> - Anza	Susan Gonzales - Artist, Garner Valley
Casa Gamino Anza	Dr. Fred Zadick Veterinarian	Kristie's Pet Grooming Anza	

Please Support these Merchants - Thank You!

It's a lot like nuts and bolts - if the rider's nuts, the horse bolts!
- Nicholas Evans

Tentative Event and Ride Schedule 2009

July 2009

Jul 24-25th - Cowboy Jubilee Music Festival, Murrieta

August 2009

Aug 13h - Bi-monthly meeting at Little Red School House

September 2009

October 2009

Oct 8h - Bi-monthly meeting at Little Red School House

Work Party information: Call 760 782-3747

RedShank Riders
BCHC
P.O. BOX 383
Agunga, Ca 92536



HELP WANTED:
Go Greener - Get Your
Newsletter Via Email

