



Tales & Trails

Newsletter of the Socorro chapter of the Back Country Horsemen of New Mexico

July 2010

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NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT, JULY, 2010

Howdy everybody. Welcome to summer. June was not only very hot as it usually is, but also, was unusually rough on people, animals & equipment. My company started their spring works about the middle of the month & I was a horseback almost every day for two weeks. One old honky cow charged my dog. He ran under my horse & the cow slammed into the horse knocking him down & separating me from the saddle. Then she butted into my knee just for insurance. Thanks to ice packs & pain pills, I was back in the saddle the next day.

Our esteemed secretary, Jane Farmer, was not quite so lucky in her accident. On a ride with Rio Grande Mule & Donkey Association, her little buckskin mule went rouge, bucked down through the PJ, separating Jane from her saddle, fracturing her pelvis, breaking her sacrum & inflicted numerous scratches & scrapes. She's now mending well but says she's taken her last mule ride.

On June 25 I hauled down to Springtime Camp Ground on the southern edge of the Apache Kid Wilderness. About a decade ago, when I was with MRGBCH, we rebuilt a set of corrals at Springtime Trail Head. They're now about to fall down & seriously need rebuilding. Perhaps we can put that on our list of things to do. However, on the last weekend in June we were there for another project: to pack out trash from the San Mateo Look Out.

Nathan Small, besides being a member of LRGBCH, is a member of NM Wilderness Alliance & he had asked the Magdalena Ranger District if they had a project that would benefit the wilderness. Forest service game biologist Dave Heft, related that there was ten years gathering of trash at the look out & he'd like to see that packed out. Also, there was an old cistern at the L.O. cabin that was a hazard & needed filling in. Nathan asked LRGBCH for help & president Pat Buls asked me to assist because I was familiar with the area - & had a pack outfit.

In a decade, FS Road 225 hasn't gotten better & FS trail 43 has gotten a whole lot worse - & a hell'va whole lot steeper. There were six of us horse folk & six backpackers. I don't know how they made it. You climb from 7,400 feet at the CG, to over 10,000 at the LO. To fill in that cistern, we packed in four bags of quickrete. When we went to unload at the top, I thought I was gonna die - had a hell'va hard time converting that thin air. So I sat & supervised. Then we loaded up & left - but left plenty of trash - that'll be there for another project.

The first backpacker to head out - with a huge load - tripped & fell before he'd gone ten steps. Later, we passed that poor soul on the trail, backpack on the ground with him standing & staring at that thing like he was trying to decide if he was gonna pick it up again. But of course he did and eventually staggered into

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Calendar of future events

- **July 15**, Meeting Vern & Paula's 575-835-3081 *page 2*
- **July 24**, Dead line to register for rendezvous. *Form on page 5 & 6*
- **July 24**, Ft Stanton overnight, *John Young 505-363-4943*
- **July 31**, State board meeting, Kiva RV
- **Aug 27-29**, Rendezvous
- **July 10-11**, Monument Park work Project, *see page 2*

Editors Notes

You were recently emailed a form to fill out to update the emergency contact list. Please get it filled out and returned, by E-mail if at all possible! See note on page 7

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT, CONTINUED



(Continued from page 1)

camp before dark. Nathan & his brother, Doug, cooked up chicken casserole & apple cobbler in Dutch ovens & we enjoyed a wonderful meal, warm red wine & good fellowship as the sun went down & Mexican spotted owls talked to each other across the canyon.

Sunday morning broke bright & sunny & we sat around sipping coffee & discussing the events of yesterday. About 9:00, we loaded up & left – but didn't get very far down rugged road 225. The right side of the receiver hitch mount on Pat's truck broke off & dug into the ground. Lucky for us, Don was in the lead & also, good on him, he realized that no one was following, pulled off the road, dropped his trailer & came to our rescue. With the help of jacks, chains & ropes, we got Pat's trailer free from her truck. Don hooked up to the trailer; we re-loaded the horses & got back on the road. Pat's friend, Yvonne, volunteered to stay with Don's outfit so we gave her some water, snacks & reading material & headed home. Later, Pat & Don returned for Yvonne & the horses & everyone got home safely, albeit a little worn out from the ordeal, but also a little wiser. There's a lesson here for all of us.

When you go on one of these BACK COUNTRY projects &/or rides; best be prepared. Have jacks, blocks, chains, ropes, gloves & plenty of water. And convoy – there's safety in numbers. Last time I was on Road 225, I broke a spring on my trailer. This caused the whole front axle to slide back jamming up the rear wheel. Luckily I was in a convoy with several MRGBCH members. And I had a chain, jacks & a come-along. We hooked the chain around the front axle, winched it forward & made it home without further incident.

Before every trip, do a complete walk-around your trailer. John Young recently prevented a serious accident when he noticed tires on his trailer were leaning at an awkward angle – an axle was broken. He had to have both axles replaced. Two year ago JoAnn van der Geest of MRGBCH had the receiver hitch on her truck drop just as she was pulling into the Lemitar truck stop. And like with Pat, they're both damn lucky that those accidents happed at very low speeds. Had they occured at interstate speeds it would have been a major wreck. So check your trailer before every trip – and be careful out there.

As Jane reports in the minutes of the June meeting, there was no guest speaker. But there was discussions of future rides & projects, John hosted the meeting & cooked a turkey for the potluck. Because of Jane's accident, we'll have to re-think the rides she had planned to lead in July – perhaps Steve & Mary - & John can follow through.

Don't forget that John is leading rides every Wednesday. Just give him a call (505-363-4943) if you'd like to participate – or to lead a ride.

That's it for now – hope to see you on the trails & at the meetings.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday - Sunday, July 10-11, Work project with LRGBCH: repairing corrals at Monument Park cabin, in the Black Range of Gila NF, 10 miles west of Chloride. RSVP Tom: 423-3303.

Thursday, July 15, 6:00pm. Meeting/potluck. Home of Vern & Paula, 835-3081. Polvadera. We owe Vern & Paula many thanks for donating \$140 to us from the sale of their tack at MRGMDA Fun Day at Kiva RV Park on June 5.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT, CONTINUED



(Continued from page 2)

RIDES & PROJECTS PLANNED

See minutes of meeting.

Pack in Supplies for trail crew in Guadalupe National Park – August 9-10.

BCHNM Rendezvous 2010, Fort Stanton – August 27, 28, 29.

REMEMBER, if you want to volunteer to lead a ride – just let us know.

ALSO REMEMBER: Get your Rendezvous Registration in the Mail

And Finally: fill out the emergency contact information & get that back to Steve.

SOCORRO BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN MEETING

June 10, 2010

After a potluck hosted by John Young of Lemitar, Vice-President Steve Randall opened the meeting at 6:55. Steve read an e-mail from President Tom Bryant explaining why he was absent and regarding him being hurt.

The **MINUTES** were approved as prepared and distributed in the newsletter.

As the treasurer was not present, there was no report. Those member have money to pay for “guests” to ride were told to hold their money.

OBTF – O. J. reported that there was no June meeting due to Boykin being gone to a fire.

PROJECTS:

KIVA – John reported that the FUN Day had a good turnout and a great tack sale.

SOBTF Cleanup – consisted only of John. Group decided it was too hot and too many mesquitoses at this point. Might have in September.

Guadalupe – no discussion

CDT Trail Marking – tabled

Rides

MCA Mine &/or Rosedale – Steve and Mary, Jane to go on scouting trip July 1.

Homestead Canyon – TBA

Fort Stanton overnight – John Young July 24

Conklin – October

September 15 – Ride Riverine Parks

September 17 – Cleanup Riverine Parks

New Business

Jane moved, Mary seconded to purchase two banners

Scarves can be ordered from the Rendezvous registration form.

Rendezvous Registration deadline July 24

Next Meeting

Will be held at Vern and Paul’s. Vern will speak about Emergency Preparedness.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Farmer

RENDEZVOUS 2010, SCHEDULE



Early Arrivals

Thursday July 26, 2010:

On your own day rides and sightseeing

Friday July 27, 2010:

Breakfast on your own

9:00 AM Early bird horse class. Water Crossing and trail ride. Approx 1+ hour depending on time at water crossing training. Led by Pat Buls, Lower Rio Grand chapter

4:00 PM Official Rendezvous begins.

4:00 PM Trail ride approx 1 to 1 ½ hours with 2 water crossings. Leader John Young, Socorro chapter.

6:00 PM Potluck dinner.

7:00 PM Guest Speaker Mike Bilbow, "The Ft Stanton Cave and Snowy River". Mike is the Cave Specialist with the BLM.

Saturday July 28, 2010

7:00 AM to 8:00AM Group kitchen potluck breakfast. Some grills and tables will be available and you provide your food.

8:00 AM Longer and more challenging ride. Pack your lunch, rain gear, water, etc.

900 AM Ride out approximately 3 hours, less challenging. Pack water and a snack back for a late lunch.

9:15 AM Ride out approximately 2 hours easy ride. Back for lunch. Pack water.

NOON Lunch on your own

3:00 PM Fort Stanton Tour Approximately 2 hours (no horses) led by Lynda Sanchez, Historian and Author.

6:00 PM Catered Dinner

7:00 PM Light Weight Packing presentation and discussion led by Mike and Alison Walstad, specialists in light packing.

8:30 PM Camp Fire led by Pat Buls. Sing along, joke telling and more.

Sunday July 29, 2010

7:00 to 8:00 Breakfast catered by Roger Leopold and the Middle Rio Grand Chapter.

8:30 AM First aid and Safety on the trail led by Dr. Michelle McGorkey

9:30 AM Small group rides on your own

Break Camp, Head Home

Have a Great Ride.



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF NEW MEXICO
RENDEZVOUS 2010
27-29 AUGUST 2010
FORT STANTON, NM
REGISTRATION FORM

NAME(S): _____ CHAPTER AFFILIATION: _____

NAME _____ NAME _____

Mailing Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ E-mail: _____

Registration includes participation in all activities planned for the days selected, a Customized BCHNM 2010 hoofpick, the catered dinner on Saturday evening, plus other prizes and awards.

Registration: (Includes Saturday Dinner)

3 Days (Fri. Aug 27 thru Sun Aug 29)	# Adult registrants _____ x \$40.00 = _____
2 Days (Fri. and Sat. includes Sat. dinner)	# Adult registrants _____ x \$35.00 = _____
2 Days (Sat and Sun.)	# Adult registrants _____ x \$35.00 = _____
1 Day (Sat. includes Sat. dinner)	# Adult registrants _____ x \$30.00 = _____

Children 12 and under are ½ price – 6 and under Free.

(Children must be supervised by
a parent or guardian at all times)

3-day	# Children _____ x \$20.00 = _____
2-day	# Children _____ x \$17.50 = _____
1-day	# Children _____ x \$15.00 = _____

Total Registration = _____

Saturday Dinner Menu Options are Beef Brisket or Grilled Chicken. Enter preference and number of participants:

Brisket _____ Chicken _____

Special Event - Pre-registration Required

Ft Stanton Museum and Stables historical tour (Saturday – 3 PM) _____ **Yes, I want to participate.** # of participants _____

Order your 2010 BCHNM Rendezvous Bandanna Heavy silk, 26" x 26" turquoise bandanna with embroidered Rendezvous logo, \$30 each.
(You can order these even if you don't attend.)

Total # wanted _____ x \$30.00 = \$ _____

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FYI



Patches for the back of a shirt or jacket are available from Cheryl Nigg of the Pecos Chapter. They are approximately 8-10 inches and cost \$10.00 ea. If you would like one contact Tom so we can put together an order for our unit.

Common Acronyms

BCH =Back Country Horsemen	TWH =Tennessee Walking Horse
BCHA = Back Country Horsemen of America	USFS = U.S. Forrest Service
BCHNM = Back Country Horsemen of New Mexico	SVBT =Socorro Valley Bosque Trail
MRGBCH =Middle Rio Grand Back Country Horsemen	SOBTF = Save Our Bosque Task Force
LGRBCH =Lower Rio Grand Back Country Horsemen	AHC = American Horse Council
PBCH = Pecos back Country Horsemae	CDT = Continental Divide Trail
SBCH =Socorro Back Country Horsemen	CDTA = Continental Divide Trail Alliance
BLM = Bureau of Land Management	

Emergency Contact List.

As I wrote on page 1, you have all been e-mailed a form to fill out and return so that the emergency contact list can be updated and distributed to all of you. This list must be updated annually soo that it is worth while. This past year it only has been called into use once to summon transportation for Jane when she was hurt.

Please make every effort to submit this form by e-mail, I then receive just the data which can then automatically entered into a spread sheet. Other wise it needs to be manually entered, which, with my very limited typing ability is time consuming and prone to errors, particularly with telephone numbers.

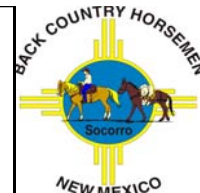
Thanks for your help, Steve

PS

If one of you would like to do this list it would be greatly appreciated.

Trading Post

Items will be listed month to month contact the editor to run again



Socorro BCHNM Shirts

To order shirts with the Socorro BCHNM logo on it contact Jane. They are \$30 a piece.

Jane Farmer 575-835-3619

E-Mail

farmer3619@msn.com

Fly Wraps

Protect your critters legs from nasty fly bites! Used successfully for many years. 16 & 20 inch lengths in stock, other sizes on request.

20.00 per pair

Contact: Steve or Mary

505-861-1088

Randall Leather Co.

Mule Tough, Mule Proven Products

sdrandall@hughes.net



Hyperlinks

If you get your newsletter on line hold down the "control" button and click on the [blue link](#) to go to the web site or to e-mail

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