

BCH of NV – HIGH SIERRA CHAPTER

Minutes Regular meeting: 02/17/2010 Black Bear Diner, Reno NV

PRESIDENT: Elaine Anagnostou
VP: Ed Acosta
Secretary: Sabine McCowen
Treasurer: Stephan Pate
Director: Jim Dragoo
Director: Debbie Maurer
Director: Jerry Williams

Meeting - called to order: 7 p.m.

The membership decided that the reading of the organization purpose at the meeting was not desired anymore. We will keep it in the minutes.

The purpose of this organization shall be:

1. *To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness*
2. *To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.*
3. *To assist the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.*
4. *To educate, encourage, and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.*
5. *To foster and encourage the formation of new state Back Country Horsemen organizations.*

President's Words

For those who weren't here in January, Elaine had some left over brochures from the guest speaker, Equine Chiropractor Dr. Micky Doyle. He's had his surgery and is back at work, so is available now. She also brought copies of the Tahoe Trails booklet.

Elaine reminded everyone to please stand when you have the floor.

Introduction of people present. We had a few guests and otherwise a full house again.

Approval of minutes for January meeting – unanimous.

Committee Reports:

Vice President, Ed Acosta

Secretary: Sabine McCowen – 18 family, 21 single memberships. Only 20 members paid so far.

Treasurer: Stephan Pate – no report. After this meeting Jan and Stephan will sit together to get everything handed to the new treasurer.

Membership Committee: Ed Acosta – Will organize meeting with Alma and Kathleen. Is willing to hear any ideas from the membership on how to increase our member numbers.

Librarian: Brad – Joan Edwards volunteered to take over as librarian starting today.

Historian: Donna Kapala – nothing new.

EVENTS SINCE LAST MEETING:

January 24, Tack Cleaning Sunday, 3 p.m., Sabine McCowen's – 7 of us met to clean saddles, saddle-bags and other leather items. Larry, Jerry and Sabine went on a 2h ride while it was snowing prior to the event.

OLD BUSINESS:

2010 Dues – need to be current on dues payment to be able to vote

State meeting recap – Elaine

1. The request received from the National Board of Directors regarding revoking charter and membership of the Alabama BCH has been deferred until the National meeting. There were numerous objections to arbitrarily doing so and it was brought up that one of the duties of a

chapter is to foster other chapters. So if a chapter is having a problem, Elaine's translation is "they should be assisted not assassinated."

2. In that spirit, it was also decided that the Reno and Carson Valley chapters of BCH will assist the Elko chapter. They are struggling to survive right now. One idea was that we go as a group to help them with an event like a trail clearing. It was brought up that people might not want to haul their horses across the state and Darlene said one of their trails is done on foot so that might be the easiest to attend. They will be contacting us with ideas.
3. It was also decided that the chapters would provide an additional \$500 to assist the National Directors with the trip to Branson for the National meeting. It will be up to the individual chapters as to how we come up with the \$500.

Jan Koval listed all the elected board members for the state org: President: Darlene McGarr- Elko / VP: Don Daniel- HSC / Treasurer: Petra Keller (continues 2 year term)- HSC / Secretary: Jan Koval – HSC / National Director: Dave Rich – CVC / National Director: Ed Acosta (continues 2 year term) – HSC / Alt. National Director: Chuck Vickrey – CVC

Petra Keller mentioned that the 2009 volunteer hours she had in her files were higher than what Jerry reported. It seems that National gave different information to both of them regarding the question if training rides such as GPS training count towards the volunteer hours. This will be looked into further and clarified at the next meeting.

Elaine mentioned again the US Rider Equestrian Motor plan. Emails had been sent to the members.

2010 Pack Clinic Ed Acosta: Discussion regarding charge for attendance. Vote is \$35 non-members, \$25 members. Ed brought a draft for flier. Has his team lined up, looking for some volunteers to sign people in, etc. Elizabeth, Joan and Marian volunteered. The trainers (Jerry, Larry, Don, Ed etc) will provide all the pack animals; attendees should not bring any, only a few could bring their riding horses to practice leading a pack horse through obstacles. This would happen after the event is officially over around 4pm. Attendees will be split up in 3 groups and rotated through stations by their group color.

Camp Kitchen update – Jerry Williams – We have 14 bowls, 16 plates, a cutting board, collapsible trash can, 4 teaspoons, 4 tablespoons, 3 knives, 2 plastic spatulas, a skillet. Jerry will make a list of what is still needed and distribute that via Sabine to all members. Hoping at the March meeting members can bring missing items and we can complete the kitchen.

NEW BUSINESS

Change to Calendar: June – Tahoe Rim Trail Assn presentation @ 7pm

Carson Valley Trails Association – Jan Koval: Jan and Petra Keller went to the recent meeting. The plan is to connect all of the Carson Valley trails on the east and west side of the valley. They are offering sponsored "Hike for Health" events, equestrians can ride anywhere where horses are allowed. \$25 per person, \$35 per family. The hikes will happen between 4/22/2010 and 5/23/2010. Deadline to sign up to sponsor a ride is 3/1. The membership did not show any interest that our chapter sponsors a ride. Jan will see if the Carson Chapter will sponsor, if so we will be informed.

BCH rescue network update, members helping each other – Sabine McCowen. This is a chapter internal network for people helping each other in the event of an emergency. Help with hauling horses to safety, housing animals temporarily etc. The information is shared within those participating. The previous spreadsheet from 2008 was passed around so updates can be made. Sabine will send an email showing what information is needed and anybody who wants to join in is welcome.

Website / Yahoo News Groups / Email – Paula will continue as webmaster, Sabine and Gerry A. will start checking email coming into info@bchnv.com. Only emails being sent via the secretary to all members will continue to be minutes, agenda, information from state / national and information about chapter events. Anything else such as items for sale or other horse-groups' events etc. need to be distributed via the newsgroup only (bchnv@yahoogroups.com). Whoever does not sign up will miss out on the information. Members of that group don't have to be members of our chapter.

Georgia BCH chapter – question about building bridges. Petra had responded to the requestor with info on TRTA and their bridge.

USFS – Ed Acosta and Don Daniel recently met with Steve Hale / US Forest Service. They found out that the USFS has a sizeable budget for this year. The plan is to hire Great Basin Institute workers to clear the trails. They will need us to pack in and out material and food for them, but no labor is needed on the trails.

These will be mostly short rides up to 2 hours into the Mount Rose Wilderness area. The budget for that area is about \$150,000 and another \$300,000 is allocated for other projects. The same amounts are available for Carson Iceberg.

Spanish Springs Sound - www.spanishspringsound.com. This is a small publication in Spanish Springs. For the February issue Sabine wrote a half page article about our chapter. They want us to continue writing horse articles. Ed Acosta will write for the March issue, deadline is Feb. 25. Great and no cost opportunity to get the word out about us.

Buckets – Paula brought a truck-load of white 5 gallon buckets with lids, free from her work.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Out of state FYI: **Northwest Horse Fair and Expo**, Albany, Oregon, March 19, 20, 21. Of possible interest, Clinician Steve Rother will be presenting a couple of clinics each on “Overcoming Trail Obstacles” and “Overcoming Extreme Issues”.

Recently received info from Patty Hill (CC) re: **American Endurance Ride Conference** in Reno Feb 19, 20. Open to public, lots of equine related vendors.

Also on February 20, **Washoe Ride, Jerry Williams**. 9am ready to ride out, meet at equestrian area at the south end at Washoe Lake. Ride at the lake (sandy) and then into the mountains, total 4-6 hours. Bring your own lunch and beverages.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm

Guest Speaker: Don Daniel – Axe, knife, shovel sharpening

Sabine McCowen
Secretary