

BCH of NV
HIGH SIERRA CHAPTER MINUTES
May 18, 2011

Minutes Regular Meeting, Black Bear Diner, S.Virginia St, Reno, NV

President:	Elaine Anagnostou	VP:	Ed Acosta (not present)
Secretary:	Sabine McCowen	Treasurer:	Jan Koval
Director:	Jim Dragoo	Director:	Don Daniel
Director:	Jerry Williams		

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.*

Elaine called meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

Introductions – 16 members, no guests.

Favorite Ride for June – Jan Koval will talk about her trip if it is not cancelled due to EHV-1 related quarantines.

Request for Approval of April minutes: Jan Koval motioned, Gerry Anagnostou seconded, all in favor to approve minutes.

Committee Reports:

Secretary - Sabine McCowen: We have 10 family and 14 single memberships.

Treasurer - Jan Koval: After we were reimbursed \$300 from State for Ed's trip to the National meeting our current balance is \$1838.52.

Librarian - Joan Edwards: Nothing new.

Historian - Donna Kapala – Nothing new.

PROGRAM: Ann was not present and the Tahoe Forest Ranger did not make it either to present today's program.

Events since last meeting:

Trailhead camp at Delta Camp/Lahontan – Sabine/Donna.

We had relocated from the previously planned Scout Camp location due to danger of flooding. Donna and Sabine camped Friday afternoon through early afternoon Sunday, temperatures ranged from t-shirt weather on Friday to wearing mittens and wool-hats on Sunday. Char visited with us Friday overnight, Sonja from the Carson Chapter rode and visited for dinner on Saturday. Hopefully we will have a good turn-out next year. One close call was a sizeable dead limb breaking off a tree just seconds before we were about to ride past that spot. Later that day, Donna's horse sank in deep mud when attempting to drink from the river; while she was struggling to get out Donna got kicked. Lessons learned – keep your eyes open for dead tree limbs, and even with a well broke horse you can get injured quickly.

Upcoming events:

June 5 day-ride in Spanish Springs, starting at Joan's house. This will be a 10 mile loop starting at 11am; some very steep sections, about 1 mile of gravel road. There are about 4 spots to park at Joan's house, otherwise across the street there is a big empty section behind the mailboxes on the road. Joan will share details via email.

July – Lakes Basin work-trip – Since Ann was not present we need to confirm trip details with her.

July – BBQ. Harlene and Chuck offered to host the BBQ at their ranch in Red Rock. Membership present voted to cancel the Wednesday meeting in July and set the Meeting/BBQ date for Sat July 23. Chuck also offered that members can bring horses for a ride or even camp, there is lots of room for RV rigs.

August – Granite Chief. Jerry mentioned currently there is quite a snow-pack; last year when we rode in end of July we barely missed some snow banks who had melted days earlier. Jerry will monitor conditions make the determination as to whether it is feasible this year based on snow level as we get closer.

American Discovery Trail rides – August 27/28 and Labor Day weekend.

Information

Remember to bring items for the December Food Drive. Be sure the expiration date is beyond December 2011. Sabine brought a container to donate money in lieu of food we sent around the table. Elaine will bring it each month. Don is storing food donated so far; he will be out of state working in Wyoming for the summer.

Mule Days, Bishop CA – May 24-29

Horse Expo, Sacramento, CA – June 10-12

Reno Rodeo, June 17-26

Old Business

Parks Use – cost is \$25 per park for the calendar year. Normal cost for Washoe Lake is \$50 per day, so with even just a one-time use we would be saving money. Jerry had suggested last month that we hold the BBQ in July at Washoe Lake Park. Harlene and Chuck offered their property in Red Rock for the July BBQ since it will take up to 2 months to process the request. Jan will find out when the calendar is even open for Washoe Lake for any events we might plan. Once we have the information we will decide at the June meeting if it makes sense to process the permit. Don suggested to consider a Sept or Oct fall ride in the hills depending on our calendar and park availability, and use Washoe Lake as the base.

Update about National Meeting – Ed will do in June.

August program – Disaster Preparedness – Sabine volunteered to present the material Don has available.

Membership increase – round table

Since Sabine has been tracking membership numbers since 2006, we have had numbers as high as 23 single and 18 family memberships in 2008. We are very low currently. One reason appears to be that for the previous years' trail- and pack-clinics we required participants to become members (most of which were not otherwise active in the chapter). This year we did not and no new member signed up that day. We have not yet signed up any new members through the Elk foundation booth, although Ed has names and contact information for some interested parties. Need to follow up on those. Jim will check with Ed to see what contacts he has made with Elk Booth visitors.

Don suggested to table the discussion to next month when Ed is back. Elaine stated she wanted the round-table in order to come up with ideas and suggestions for the committee to work from. Don mentioned radio stations have to give air-time to non-profit organizations (per FCC rules) We can look into this; it may be as easy as writing some information down and sending it to the stations. Another suggestion was magnet decals with phone numbers? Jim said nobody has contacted him yet although he has stickers on his truck, but he also stated the stickers have no contact information. It was suggested to add our website name to stickers (www.bchnv.com). Don also suggested that we get in contact with other horse groups, invite them to events and meetings etc.

Since some of our members already have contacts with other clubs (Jan with CVTA, Jerry with the Gaited Horse Club, Marianne Merriam with the Natural Horsemanship group) Sabine suggested that those members work on inviting those other clubs, and each of our members could let Sabine know to whom they are talking so we can have good coverage.

Since a committee of 2 (Ed and Sabine) is rather small, Jim volunteered to join the committee. Additional volunteers will be very much appreciated.

Donna suggested looking into other booth options; the Whole Food Market has events for example and would only require a couple of members to staff the booth.

Jerry mentioned when we run the ad in Horsetales we should add our current events.

Don pointed out that our chapters have not had an article in the National BCH Newsletter in a while.

Chuck Shepherd asked that he be included on our email list in addition to Harlene. Sabine will add him to the distribution list

We had a short break.

RAFFLE – Donna: Gerry Anagnostou won \$17 (half of the money taken in). He donated the entire amount to the chapter. Thanks, Gerry!

NEW BUSINESS

Donna handed out a write-up about the EHV-1 virus. The origination of this outbreak seemed a horse-show in Ogden, UT. Some horses in Washoe County are reportedly being treated. Horse-shows are being cancelled. If you plan to travel across state-lines, check that state's AG department website for entry requirements. Exercise isolation and good hygiene practices since the virus is highly contagious and can be spread by an airborne contaminant in addition to being shared via buckets, hands, shoes, grooming tools etc.

Jerry will present the June program about First aid for horses.

Don had handed out pieces of hose and suggested to keep 1 or 2 in your saddle bags; if swelling occurs from rattlesnake bites, insect bites, anaphylactic shock etc, you can keep the nasal passages from swelling shut by lubricating and inserting pieces of tubes. Horses can only breathe through their nostrils, not through their mouths. Donna had learned that you can give 4 Benadryl to a horse to reduce swelling/inflammation.

Many of us had gotten letters from the NV Department of Agriculture, requiring paying an annual fee for each horse (\$0.75 each) and other livestock owned. Elaine had done research and found out that this program was established in 1961 for livestock protection and was originally performed by counties. The counties were not diligent in collecting the information and fees and the program was taken over by the State in 2001. As additional stock-owners are located they are added to the list that is mailed out annually. The fees go toward tracking horse movement; capturing, caring for, and placing estrays in new homes; tracking disease outbreaks; and helping to recover stolen livestock in addition to other related expenses.

Sabine handed out a sheet cut+pasted from the UC Davis website, explaining how a horse can be euthanized via a gun-shot. We recently had discussed the proper procedure at the pack clinic - should the need arise in the backcountry to humanely put down a horse.

Marian Finnegan motioned, Jim Dragoo seconded, all in favor - the meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm

Sabine McCowen
Secretary