

Backcountry Horsemen of California



SHASTA - TRINITY
UNIT



September 2007 Newsletter



Make sure to mark your calendars!!
General Meeting on September 27th @ Palo Cedro Inn**
****Remember... new location!! Time: 6 pm for food & catch up with friends; 7 pm for meeting.**

Catch us on the Web:
<http://users.snowcrest.net/bchcst>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

We have a general meeting coming up in September (see this issue for time, date and location). Sometimes it is hard to believe, but this is your Unit and we need the membership's input to function. At this meeting we will be asking you to make suggestions as to needed changes, improvements, and how we can better function and operate. Please step up to the plate if you have concerns or some great ideas. Also, we will be opening nominations for next year's board and officers. The final elections will be at the meeting in December. Again, please step up and become part of the operation of the board. The only way we get change, new ideas, and keep freshness as part of the Unit is by the participation of the membership. Here is a partial list of what I have for the agenda:

1. Thousand Lakes Proposals
2. Possible PCT Pack Trip and work party
3. Changes, ideas to improve how we function and communicate.
4. Possible work projects for 2008 and future years
5. Possible fundraisers.
6. Annual Dinner
7. Nominations for the board and officers
8. Upcoming State Board Meeting.

If you would like to add items to the agenda, please email me. Again, this is your Unit so please plan to attend the meeting and get involved. My email is: shuman@hughes.net or phone: 527-8907. *Larry Shuman*

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Notice: This is your unit of Backcountry Horsemen. Please plan to attend the next general meeting on September 27th at the Palo Cedro Inn. Our Shasta Trinity Unit is a prototype for “partnering” multiple agencies, both public and private. Our members make our work projects successful despite sometimes amazing obstacles. Sometimes those obstacles involve Mother Nature, individuals and/or the unique tweaking of bureaucracies. But our Shasta Trinity Unit has the reputation of “getting the job done”. So please plan to attend the general meeting. All skill levels and areas of expertise are needed and can be put to good use. Not all goals require a horse or mule or even riding skills. Contributing your thoughts on how to better our unit are most important. **General Meeting: September 27th @ Palo Cedro Inn 6pm for food; meeting begins 7pm on the patio.**

FISH PLANT 2007:

This year’s fish plant, while successful, will also be remembered by several members as the “faulty truck event”. Several members’ trucks decided that the Fish Plant weekend was the time to have faulty jake brake systems, brakes got tired, fuel injectors and their filters went haywire, motors skipped over gears that the factory had designed....etc. etc. Several folks who had planned to attend and assist with the packing couldn’t make the trip. But those who did make it to Alan’s base camp quickly revamped plans and “trailer pooled” where needed. As always, the food was wonderful, thanks to our gourmet cooks: Chef Gene and Chef Lyle. Of course, their assistants were equally great: Lori was up to her wrists in garlic and onions; while Rose and Sheila coordinated all the “little” things: slicing peaches, getting salads and veggies ready, making sure there were sodas and waters on ice. Rose even made an “emergency” run to the local store at Trinity Center for more sodas, adult beverages, garbage bags and those few things that somehow never got packed for the trip. Throughout it all, humor saw us through.



The 1st day our group did Lower, Middle & Upper Dead Fall Lakes. As always, the scenery was spectacular. At Middle Dead Fall Lake, we encountered a family camping with two small boys. They had been to the hatchery the previous day and had been asking their parents “What happens to the fish?” So of course Kaz enlisted the boys’ help to gently place the fingerlings into the lake water. And their mother was thrilled for her sons to see and experience what happens to the fish.

Coming Soon!!! Jerry Tindell Clinic

Mark your calendars now:

Jerry's clinic is designed for green horses, mules or donkeys. Get the control you need for a safe ride on October 12th, 13th, & 14th. Attend all three days or just two.

Location: Reynolds Arena Red Bluff

Contact Host: Judy Fox

Via email: tinfox@neteze.com

Phone: 530-528-8412

Coleman Fish Hatchery's annual **SALMON FEST** will soon be here. At the general meeting, please let us know if you can help out. This is a big event that really spreads positive thoughts about our unit. Our gourmet Dutch Oven experts also contribute to the "warm tummy" feelings about Backcountry Horsemen. This is an October event not to be missed. Usually, there's great fall weather and it a quick & easy getaway for a few hours before winter comes.

The CCC's in Lassen:

These young CCC team members, as all CCC team members really work hard. They clear trails for park users, assist the rangers with keeping the forest accessible to the public and learn about themselves while doing so. In August, a group of us went to Lassen for a re-supply for these CCCs. Several of us were surprised that some of these young people had never been around horses or mules before. They eagerly assisted with unloading and eventually were willing to hold lead ropes for us..(after we assured them the pack animals were not wild animals) The team members were all very polite and made every effort to help where they could. The CCCs knew the pack animals were bringing in fresh food (Edie Davis even managed a case of potato chips that didn't get scrunched.)



Mulemom Mutterings: Here we are at the end of another busy season, with much to look back on and be proud of. I can say that now that my sore muscles have healed! We had one last camping excursion up to Lassen over the holiday weekend. A grand adventure for all of our critters: It was the first time we took 5 dogs out on a trail ride. We just went a short 5 miles because two of the breeds are not cattle dogs and while in good condition, they aren't physically designed for trail work. Success: no one got lost, wandered off, and our mules just sighed big groans as if to say "Do we have to let those dogs tag along?" Once home, the trailer got a thorough cleaning, even the horse compartment. After my husband power washed the trailer, we power washed 12 of our most frequently used horse pads. (We thought we may as well take advantage of the 100 + degree heat!) We took a quick check of our tack and fine tuned a few items that needed replacing, new rivets, and made note that a rainy day this winter better find us in our tack room **CLEANING TACK !!**