

Backcountry Horsemen of California



SHASTA - TRINITY UNIT



February 2008 Newsletter



Remember what you wore to our annual banquet??
Please check those coat pockets!
Derith Rochlitz lost her car keys that night. The keys are easily replaced, but the "black beeper" costs \$75 to replace. If you have a set of Dodge keys and the beeper isn't working on your vehicle, give Derith a call @ 347-6620.

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

New State BCHC email:
<http://bchcalifornia.net>

Wintertime: Busy...Busy...Busy.

Some people think winter is "downtime". Not for the Shasta Trinity Unit! There is so much going on: assisting Larry with Rendezvous envelopes, attending John's seminar for learning advanced techniques on all kinds of stuff: trail courtesy, trail responsibilities of both BCHC and our agency partners, and of course how to pack anything on a pack animal...barrels, tools, and more. Then the NorCal Sports show on February 29-March 2nd at the Shasta Fairgrounds in Anderson. There's the Rendezvous in Turlock, and in between all of this, we have our routine "home maintenance" projects Mother Nature has kindly provided for our attention due to the recent winter storms. Before we blink an eye, it will be spring and time to get us and our animals in packing condition for the trails of summer.

Need to keep those fingers limbered up for packing this summer?

Contact Larry Shuman @ 527-8907 for date and time needed. This year, the Shasta Trinity Unit is again assisting in preparation for the annual March Rendezvous in Turlock. Our unit will be stuffing envelopes with Rendezvous information and mailing the envelopes to all California members of BCHC. All hands and fingers are welcomed. This is one activity that any member can do. And you don't have to lick the envelopes! We have sponges for that!
Larry may also be reached @ shuman@hughes.net

Remember, if you have an item you think needs to be considered at one of our meetings, be it a Board Meeting or General Meeting, contact our President Dave Wiens so that he can include it on the next agenda. This is your Backcountry Horsemen unit, speak up!

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Congratulations to our TOP HAND:

Dereith Rocklitz!

Dereith is different things to our diversified members of BCHC: To some, she's the dutiful recording secretary, who keeps track of what is said at all meetings, a virtual walking encyclopedia of BCHC events, responsibilities and potential future developments that could effect BCHC. But there's more: Dereith is always available for exploring possible new projects for us and committed to seeing our promises kept that supplies will be delivered to the CCC's on time or fingerlings delivered to the correct lakes regardless of vehicle troubles. She's patient with newcomers, has a dry sense of humor that can slip past you, if you're not paying attention, and a willing hand to help whether it's unloading a pack animal or finding the name and phone number of a crucial contact with BLM. Dereith, whatever would we do without you??

More Education...More Knowledge...More Hands-on

Our Education Officer, John Ellery, has a clinic March 8th for our unit members. This is a hands-on clinic that everyone should attend, especially, if you'll be a team leader for the fish plant or packing in supplies to the CCC's, Boy Scouts, or Sierra Club. As our packing venues expand, so should our capabilities. Other BCHC units are always amazed at how much we accomplish with our agency partnerships. Education before we mount up is a major factor to our success. Mark your calendar and give John a call:

John Ellery may be reached @ 365-0497 or via email: johnellery@hughes.net

Remember, this is the opportune time for checking tack, repairing and/or replacing as needed those clips, leather pieces and crucial ties you grumbled about last July and August. WHEN we get a dry day, try out any new gear or accessories you've added. Give your animal a chance to tell you "this will work well" or "this is NOT happening!!" No need to try out new things on the trail; there are enough surprises out there, as it is.

NorCal Sports Show

The BCHC Shasta Trinity unit is once again having a display at the NorCal Sports Show February 29th, March 1st & 2nd this year. Contact Larry Shuman if you are willing to help out. Displays need to be set up, demonstrations made, chitchat with passersby about what we do, help with Dutch Oven cooking... (even to sacrifice and partake in the taste tests!) There's always surprises as to who drops by the booth. You'll see old friends and make new ones. To assist Larry, give him a call @ 527-8907 or email Larry @ shuman@hughes.net

SHASTA TRINITY UNIT PACKERS

We need you to come to one of the pack clinics planned for March 8. There will be a morning session from 9:00am to noon, and an afternoon session from 1:30pm to 4:30pm. The clinics will be held at my place, off of Dersch Rd. From the intersection of Dersch Rd. and Deschutes Rd., go east on Dersch Rd. for 5.2 miles. At 5.0 miles you will cross Bear Creek. 0.2 miles further, you will see Cottage Hill Dr. on the right (dirt road). I will have orange flagging tape out. Go down Cottage Hill Dr., through an electric gate that will be open, and follow the road across a cement crossing, a bridge, and another cement crossing, and you will see the horse barn on your right.

There will be limited enrollment at each session, so please contact me as soon as possible. I need to know which session you would like to attend. If it doesn't matter, let me know that too, and I will assign you where there is an open slot. Be sure to give me a way of contacting you (email or phone).

If you cannot attend March 8, it is possible we may have another session on March 15, if needed. Let me know.

This clinic is extremely important. We want all of our people to understand how the new relationship with the CCC is going to work. All of our members who are going to be packing also need to learn the proper methods to pack some of the more difficult loads. One of our goals is to not repeat the errors of the past.

John Ellery johnellery@hughes.net 365-0497