

Mid Valley Monthly

Volume 38 Issue 5

MAY 2025

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President's Message

By Barbara Baglione-Riner

Hello all!

It really feels like this year is flying by quickly. I feel like we just celebrated the New Year, and it is already almost June. I'm hoping that everyone had a good rest of their April and are enjoying the month of May so far. The weather has been fairly nice lately so that is something to be thankful for, among many other great things.

My family and I have finally settled into our new home in Escalon and have been very busy with various activities which I am grateful we are able to do. Our latest activities have consisted of a t-ball game every Saturday, Spring Campout, a fun wedding, Mother's Day festivities, Easter with family, and I am finally finishing up my Spring semester of college.

Despite having a full plate, I am so happy I was able to make it to our unit's annual Spring Campout. This year it was held at the Gaiser Ranch up in Chinese Camp (big thank you to the Gaiser family for hosting us this year). This was my first time being up there and boy was it a fun time. Even though it rained before, during, and after dinner we still really enjoyed our time there with everyone. It was great to see all our members get together for such a fun weekend. I was able to ride, which is few and far between for me, so that was definitely the highlight of my weekend. I hope everyone else had a good time!

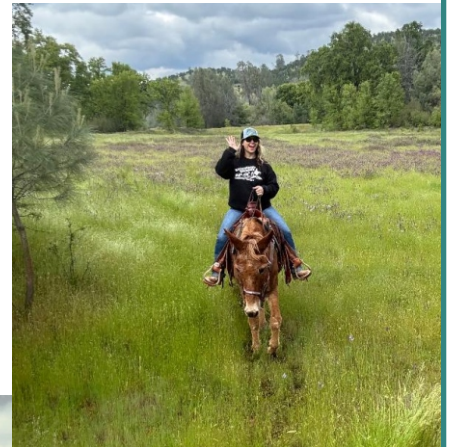
There are a few things to look forward to coming up, including Bishop Mule Days, which will be happening thanks to enough people coming together to make it happen. That will be happening Memorial Day Weekend, and our unit will have some participants (including myself) in this year's activities.

If you are able to make it to Bishop this year, make sure to cheer them on!

Additionally, in June there will be a ride at Lyons Reservoir starting at 10 a.m. If you wish to be part of this ride, make sure to contact Jim Westmoreland at (209) 815-3125 for more information. Also, on July 25th, there will be an opportunity to make some yummy Dutch oven desserts at the Tuolumne County Farm Bureau Fundraiser at Hurst Ranch in Jamestown. If you are interested in participating, please contact Terri Arrington at (209) 768-7076.

As always, if you are a member who is interested in becoming more involved or would like to attend our monthly board meetings, we would be delighted to have you as a guest. Our monthly meetings are held at 6:30 p.m., every second Tuesday of the month at Perko's Café in Riverbank. Hope to see you there!

Happy Trails,



Mid Valley Monthly is the official monthly newsletter of Mid Valley Unit of the Backcountry Horsemen of California. It is an independent publication containing news and information consistent with the mission of BCHC and of interest to its members. Circulation is approximately 360 copies per issue.

Editorial Team

Vicki Morales, Kathy Zumbrunn
and Gail Jamieson

Layout and printing by Inprint Printing Co.
Janet@inprint1.com



Member submissions are encouraged and may be made by email or snail mail. We reserve the right to accept or refuse submissions and advertising that, in our opinion, do not reflect the standards of this newsletter, or are inconsistent with the objectives and purpose of the Backcountry Horsemen of California and/or Mid Valley Unit. Submissions may be edited for content, grammar, spelling, punctuation and length without consent.

Mid Valley Monthly is not a creative writing outlet, however, all submissions that may be of interest to its readers and reflect the standards of the newsletter, will be considered for publication at the discretion of the editor. Submitted content may be forwarded to *Backcountry News*, or any other journal, for re-publication without consent unless specifically requested.

Deadline: All submissions are due by midnight of the Friday following the monthly board meeting but early submissions are highly appreciated and strongly encouraged. Be sure to type "Mid Valley Monthly newsletter" in the subject line of your email message and send to mvmmonthly@gmail.com. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or hold over late submissions.

Mid Valley Unit Website: www.bchcmidvalley.org

Webmaster: Ted Pack, 209-883-4192 tedpack@fire2wire.com

Merchandise Sales

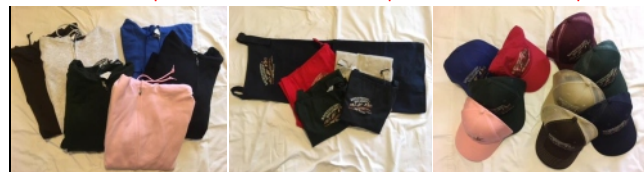
We have a lot of merchandise for everyone to choose from:



Hoodies \$35

Crew necks \$30

T-Shirts \$20



Zipped Hoodies \$40

Aprons \$20

Caps \$20

Youth prices.....same price

*

Size pricing: (2X + \$2) (3X + \$3)



Trail Books \$10



Decals

Large \$15 * Small \$3

For information on purchasing please call Stephanie Stott at

Phone (209) 402-4417 Email: HorseBiz66@yahoo.com

Are Your Membership Dues Due?

By Kathy Zumbrunn



In this crazy-busy life we lead sometimes it is too hard to remember all the things we need to do. So is the case of when our Mid Valley membership is due for renewal. So I have decided to help you out! Each month I will list everyone who is due for the next two months, and if your name is listed, please fill out the membership application in this newsletter, mark it "Renewal" and send it in. This will make sure your membership keeps up-to-date and you will also make Chip Herzig's job a bit easier too!

BE SURE TO MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO: BCHC MEMBERSHIP, CHECK "RENEWAL" AND SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS ON THE APPLICATION FORM.

And if you have had any changes, such as email address, phone, etc., please note it on the renewal.

I have included the current month because if dues are not renewed, your membership will expire. Please do not let this happen. Thank you for your time and assistance.

MAY

Dan Baumgardner
Carol Jo Hargreaves & Larry Schneider
Terry Lewallen
Christine Serpa
Dennis and Loretta Serpa
Roz Taulbee

JUNE

Lucy Badenhoop
Craig and Samantha Brooks, DVM
Dennis and Michele Serpa Jr.
Vernon and Donna Storment

Derrick Vessel Family
Dave and Kathy Moser
John Young

If you have already sent in your dues, please disregard, as it may have been posted after this information was sent to me for publication. Plus, if you ever have any questions or problems, please feel free to contact me and I'll help get answers for you, no matter what you need. Kathy: (209)765-4923 or runningzranch@gmail.com

Rendezvous 2026

by Michael King



I have some great news to share with all of you. Just days ago, BCHC approached Mid Valley Unit about hosting Rendezvous 2026 at Diamond Bar in Ceres, CA., the same location as was utilized in 2024. The proposal was brought to the Mid Valley Board of Directors meeting last Tuesday. A motion was made, seconded, discussed and voted on in the affirmative for our unit to host Rendezvous 2026 on the third weekend of March, 2026, which will be March 20-22, 2026.

Be sure to mark your calendars now so you will be sure not to miss the action!

Right now, planning is just getting underway, and not much yet has happened. It's like a freight train, starting off slowly but building momentum ever so surely. Stay tuned as we start the planning process. As with 2024, we will need volunteers with ideas, manpower and lots of enthusiasm! This is once again our chance to shine, and our members will make sure that happens. We will be in touch shortly with more news. Watch your emails! Communication at the start will be by email to the membership, and this newsletter when practical.

Quote of the Month



Speak kindly to your little horse,
And soothe him when he wheezes,
Or he may turn his back on you,
And kick you where he pleases.



—Anonymous— From the Quotable Horse Lover



By Crystal Dalby

Vicki Whisler lost her brother, Gordon Whisler. Many thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family as you mourn this great loss.

Carolyn Sizemore lost her mother. Our prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.

Some good news to report - Jerrie Ann Thomas is a new GREAT, GREAT Grandma! A little boy, Jace Bennett Alvarado, was born May 6th. Congratulations, Jerrie!

If you need some sunshine sent your way. Let me know. I would like to hear the good also! New baby? Got married? New Job? Please let me know! Text is the best way! But you may get a hold of me any way you need!

Crystal Dalby
(209) 968.0483 Crystal_dalby322@yahoo.

Dutch Oven Report

By Vicki Whisler

Again, not much to report! I was unable to attend the Spring Campout so you will have to read about it elsewhere.

Coming up is our Kennedy Meadows Campout with Dutch oven potluck Saturday night.

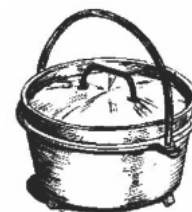
The date is July 17-20 with the potluck on Saturday the 19th.

Then there is the Tuolumne County Farm Bureau Fund Raiser at the Hurst Ranch in Jamestown on Friday, July 25th. Each year our unit provides Dutch oven desserts which are greatly appreciated. Cooks are always welcome. Please text me for more information.

Sorry I've been missing in action, still haven't gotten anything done about my elbow - long story! Can't lift or reach much with it! Hopefully I will find out something on the 29th, another doctor appointment, grr!

Be safe and stay hydrated as the temperature climbs!

Vicki Whisler (209) 480-0566



Cheesy Potatoes

From Rendezvous Competition

Submitted by Kathy Zumbrunn

- 1 bag (32 oz.) of cubed frozen hash browns
- 1 medium container of sour cream
- 1 cube of melted butter
- 1 lb. of medium or sharp cheddar cheese
- 1 can of condensed Cream of Celery Soup
- 1/2 of an onion, chopped



Combine all of the above ingredients in a large bowl (withholding a little cheese) and mix well. Place in your DO, then add the withheld cheese to the top. Use foil liners or parchment paper to make cleanup much easier. Heat the potatoes for 1 1/2 hours at 350 degrees. Depending on the size of oven you use and the weather conditions, 350 degrees varies. For a 10-inch oven, use 16 on top and 7 on the bottom. For a 12-inch oven, use 18 on top and 8 on the bottom. This is according to Lodge.



2025 Mid Valley BCHC Spring Campout

By Carl Perry



On April 25-27th our annual Spring Campout was attended by 45 members. Mostly everyone rolled in Friday afternoon. There was a lot of space at the Gaiser Ranch for everyone. The trailers were scattered all over in a 4-acre allotment. The event had sporadic rain showers throughout the whole weekend. On Saturday morning, Lloyd Erlandson and Garrett Dollarhide drove in with their cooking clothes on and started preparing breakfast for everyone. The menu included ham, bacon, eggs and apple cider pancakes. The meal was delicious and it prompted us to saddle up and go for a ride. The weather cooperated and we all had a great ride around the ranch that morning. There were about 25 riders that day. After the ice cream social, the interscholastic pack team showed off their skills and set some record times in their competition debut. The pinata was a big hit with the kids but I think they put too much glue on the cardboard. The kids beat the legs off it and finally Dave had to rip it open. I think the rain likes to repeat itself as it did at Kennedy two years ago. When we started putting out the main dishes, the sprinkles started getting heavier. The potluck dinner is always a hit and there was more food than we could eat. We made it through dinner and a very short meeting, but by the time our auction was starting, the cloud turned black in the sky and the drops got bigger. Quickly, everyone was huddled under the few canopies that we had. We had a successful auction and I thank everyone who endured the weather. We had a great campfire with flames shooting high in the sky. Fun was had by all until the next morning. The rain pounded all night and the next morning people started leaving. Pretty soon I saw a backup of pickups and horse trailers sitting on the main road. I went down to see what the hold up was. The side of the road gave way and one of our big, long trailers was hanging off the main road. It took a couple of hours to correct the situation and a big thank you to Colton for the Gaiser Backhoe. See you all next year!





Our Award Winning Newsletter

By Kathy Zumbrunn

I am so proud to say we have an excellent newsletter. I was surprised to learn we received first place in the 2024 Max and Irene Cochran Journalism Contest at the 2025 Rendezvous. There were four units who entered the contest, and we scored 98 points out of 100. We scored a 95 on the total score, and were given an extra three points for publishing on the unit website, emailing it to our members and having a Facebook page. Gail, Vicki and I do work hard to make it interesting, and we are very excited to have this wonderful plaque for offices.



But all the credit does not go to us. I want to thank Janet Esho, of Inprint Printing Co., who so patiently lets us sit at her side and "help" her put the newsletter together each month. We proof and reproof until we think it is acceptable! She is a saint to put up with us!

And I also want to thank everyone who writes articles and sends photos and recipes to use in the newsletter. It really helps to receive those, because without them, we would not have such a full newsletter. And if they are sent in, even before the deadline, we can get working on them sooner! So thank you, everyone, for all you do, too!



Rides Report

By Jim Westmoreland

Greetings to all members of Mid Valley Unit of Back Country Horsemen. Although, technically, we are not riding in the back country yet, we will eventually get there. Our stock needs to prepare for the high country and going on these short rides in the foothills in the off season will help them build the condition they need for longer and more challenging rides in the back country this summer.

Our last ride was held at Peoria Flat/New Melones Reservoir. We met May 3 on a beautiful spring day. A total of 11 members threw a leg over saddled mounts and we headed up the hill after a short discussion on what to do if encountering a rattlesnake or poison oak. We had missed the peak of the wildflower season, but still enjoyed seeing some poppies and other wild flowers. The grass was green and on the south trail there was still water running in the stream as we followed it up the hill. The weather was perfect in temperature and sunshine. We did not encounter any rattlesnakes, but there was poison oak along a few portions of the trail that tried to entice us to reach out and shake hands. I believe there were no takers that day. Our ride lasted 2 1/2 hours and everyone was ready for lunch upon our return to the trailhead. The trail riders included: Jim Westmoreland as trail boss, Chris Westmoreland, Crystal Dalby, Nicole Jones, Carl Perry, Gail Altieri, Vicki Morales, Rudy Dezzani, Cathy Dollarhide, Doug Dollarhide, with John Schaapman bringing up the rear leading his two mules. They need to get in shape too! Thanks to all those who participated with us. It was a pleasure to ride with you.

Our next ride is scheduled on June 14th at Lyons Lake off of Highway 108. We will park at the entrance right off the highway. Please be ready to ride out by 10 a.m. and bring a lunch.

For more information, contact Jim Westmoreland, ride chair at (209) 815-3125



Spring Campout Report

By Terri Arington

The Spring Campout at the Gaiser Ranch was well attended in spite of the not-so-favorable weather, but it didn't dampen the enthusiasm. The ranch is in all its Springtime splendor with rich green grass, oaks in their fresh new leaves, all the little creeks flowing and wildflowers in bloom!

I want to give a big "Thank You" to the Gaiser family. Their generosity and kindness are immeasurable. They provided piles of firewood for the fire pit and that was the most popular spot! We huddled under several pop-ups to enjoy a delicious potluck and Dutch oven dishes and desserts! And we even squeezed in the auction with good participation. A wet and chilly late afternoon rain was capped off with a special rainbow, just for Mid Valley! A great success I would say!



"The Gaiser Herd"

Dick and Liz, grandson Lucca, daughter-in-law Paula and new granddaughter Ruby, under the blanket, and son Colton with grandson Hunter.

Work Parties

By Vicki Morales

We all know that Carl and Julie Perry are very active Mid Valley members. Carl is trying to fit some work parties into their busy schedule. If you are interested in participating in one or more work parties, please call or text him at (209) 321-5410. Clark Fork, Pine Valley Horse Camp, and Kerrick Corral are the areas where he might schedule a work party.

Journey into **HORSEMANSHIP**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~
Carlena Kellogg

Modesto, California

209-505-0122

★ ★ ★

COACH-TRAINER

Western Riding

Obstacles

Desensitizing

Lessons & Clinics

~ ~ ~ ~ ~
Professionally Insured

Ladyroughrider1@yahoo.com



MID VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For details and additional current events:

www.bchcmidvalley.org/calendar.html

Note: All events subject to change

May 2025

22 – 26) Bishop Mule Days

June 2025

10) Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Perko's, 2120 Patterson Road, Riverbank
Contact: Barbara Riner
(209) 402-4473 rinerbarbara97@gmail.com

14) Ride at Lyons Reservoir Ride out at 10:00 a.m.
Contact: Jim Westmoreland
(209) 815-3125 jimwestmorelandsem@gmail.com

July 2025

8) Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Perko's, 2120 Patterson Road, Riverbank
Contact: Barbara Riner
(209) 402-4473 rinerbarbara97@gmail.com

17-20) Kennedy Meadows General meeting and Campout
Contact: Garrett Dollarhide
(209) 804-8385 chance2011.gd.gd@gmail.com

25) Dutch Oven Desserts at Hurst Ranch
Contact: Terri Arington
(209) 768-7076

August 2025

12) Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Perko's, 2120 Patterson Road, Riverbank
Contact: Barbara Riner
(209) 402-4473 rinerbarbara97@gmail.com

September 2025

9) Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Perko's, 2120 Patterson Road, Riverbank
Contact: Barbara Riner
(209) 402-4473 rinerbarbara97@gmail.com

October 2025

14) Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Perko's, 2120 Patterson Road, Riverbank
Contact: Barbara Riner
(209) 402-4473 rinerbarbara97@gmail.com

Save the Date
Rendezvous March 20-22, 2026
at Diamond Bar

2025 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President, Barbara Riner Winter Round-Up**
(209) 402-4473 rinerbarbara97@gmail.com

Vice President, Kaitlyn Rumsey Membership Chair, Winter Round-Up**
(209) 768-5732 kaitlynnrumsey@gmail.com

Secretary, Cathy Dollarhide* Website
(209) 602-1489 bootsandspur@att.net

Treasurer, Vicki Morales Newsletter, State Board Director**
(209) 404-0561 vickimorales@sbcglobal.net

Past President, David Rumsey Spring Campout, Pack Team
(209) 532-2681 davidsumsey@yahoo.com

Crystal Dalby Sunshine, Volunteer Hours**
(209) 968-0483 crystal_dalby322@yahoo.com

Doug Dollarhide Youth Activities, Youth Horse Camp, State Board Director, Pack Team**
(209) 605-2403 bootsandspur@att.net

Garrett Dollarhide Education, Kennedy Meadows General Meeting, State Board Director**
(209) 804-8385 chance2011.gd.gd@gmail.com

Lloyd Erlandson* — Insurance
(209) 761-3942 lloyd.erlandson0@gmail.com

Michael King* Alternate State Board Director
(209) 606-8323 mickngig@sbcglobal.net

Carl Perry* Volunteer Service Projects, Spring Campout Pack Team
(209) 321-5410 hayloftpigeon@aol.com

Dennis Serpa* Public Lands
(209) 531-5175 dmsarpa@velociter.net

Stephanie Stott* Facebook, Merchandise
(209) 402-4417 HorseBiz66@yahoo.com

Jim Westmoreland Peoria Flat Project Chair, Rides**
(209) 815-3125 jimwestmorelandsem@gmail.com

Vicki Whisler* Dutch Oven Group
(209) 480-0566 vickiwhisler@sbcglobal.net

2025 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Saw Program Stanislaus Wilderness Volunteers, Dave Moser
(209) 404-1372 davemoser53@hotmail.com

Newsletter - Gail Jamieson and Kathy Zumbrunn
(209) 765-4923 runningzranch@gmail.com
(209) 918-8869 gail.sunshine@gmail.com

Email only newsletter, Email blasts - Dan Prine
(209) 485-0844 dyprine@aol.com

Columbia All Equestrian Parade, Barbara Savery
(209) 743-3580 bjsavery@att.net

Photographer - Aida Nunes
(209) 620-1759 aidaitelnunes@gmail.com

Unit Trailer - Larry Souza
(209) 613-8293

Webmaster - Eileen Forte

STATE BOARD DIRECTORS

Doug Dollarhide, Garrett Dollarhide, Vicki Morales,
Michael King - alternate



Backcountry Horsemen of California



MAIL TO: **BCHC**
MEMBERSHIP
1280 State Rt. 208
Yerington, NV 89447

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

A Family & Youth
Oriented Organization
Release 4 2025 (11 Feb 25)

☐ New ☐ Change
☐ Renewal

PARENT UNIT AFFILIATION: (Select and CHECK a Unit as your Affiliation)

☐ Antelope Valley	☐ Los Padres	☐ Redshank Riders	☐ Sierra Freepackers
☐ Eastern Sierra	☐ Manzanita Riders	☐ Redwood	☐ Sutter Buttes
☐ High Country	☐ Mid Valley	☐ San Joaquín Sierra	☐ Top of the State
☐ High Sierra	☐ Mother Lode	☐ Santa Ana River	
☐ Kern River Valley	☐ North Bay	☐ Sequoia	
☐ Kern Sierra		☐ Shasta Trinity	

DCTR (Your Membership Number): _____

MEMBER'S NAME - No Business Names, Print Clearly

SPOUSE/CO-MEMBER'S NAME - MUST SHARE SAME ADDRESS

Street Address/PO Box

City _____ State _____ Zip Code (full 9 digits if known) _____ Area Code _____ Phone Number _____

Email Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Donation to BCHC Education Fund (Tax deductible) \$ _____ Enclosed: _____ Check No. _____

Parent Unit Membership Types (Check One)

☐ 1 Year Individual \$60	☐ 1 Year Family \$75	☐ Young Adult (18-25 years old) \$15	☐ Benefactor \$100
☐ 2 Year Individual \$110	☐ 2 Year Family \$140	Include Date of Birth / /	☐ Patron \$250
☐ 3 Year Individual \$160	☐ 3 Year Family \$205		☐ Mt. Whitney \$500

Associate Membership: An Additional \$15 PER UNIT is added to your Parent Unit Dues

Associate Membership Unit Affiliations MAY NOT BE FOR THE SAME UNIT AS YOUR PARENT UNIT

Associate Membership for: _____ \$15/Unit
Unit Name (from above list)

Associate Membership for: _____ \$15/Unit
Unit Name (from above list)

Please clip form along dashed line and keep the below portion for your records.

Parent BCHC Membership Types

Individual, Family, (Shared**), Benefactor, Patron, and Mt. Whitney

A Parent Membership is with a single Local Unit.

**A SHARED Membership is for two adults with differing last names who share a common address.

Associate Memberships

These special Memberships are only available to persons already holding Parent BCHC Membership. No one may sign up for an Associate Membership without 1) having registered one of the Parent Membership types, and 2) having selected Parent Unit affiliation.

Young Adult Memberships MUST include date of birth on application. The year you turn 24 is the last year you may renew under this membership.

Complete information regarding BCHC Membership
is available on the MEMBERSHIP TAB at
bchcalifornia.org or call (775) 463-3634

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

I submitted an Application Form for a -

☐ 1 Year Individual	\$60
☐ 2 Year Individual	\$110
☐ 3 Year Individual	\$160
☐ 1 Year Family	\$75
☐ 2 Year Family	\$140
☐ 3 Year Family	\$205
☐ Young Adult (18-25 years old)	\$15
☐ Benefactor	\$100
☐ Patron	\$250
☐ Mt. Whitney	\$500

☐ On that form, I also requested:
Associate Memberships

My Total Remittance: _____

My Check Number: _____

Date Mailed: _____

Verifying BCHC Membership by

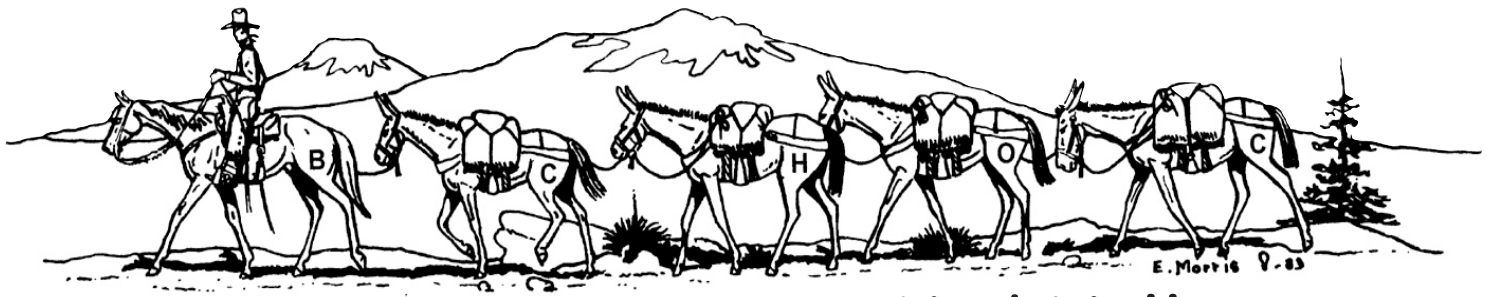
- 1) BCHC Unit President's reports
- 2) BCHC Membership VP reports
- 3) a self-addressed stamped envelope submitted with this form
- 4) a valid email address

NEWSLETTER AD RATES

Business Card - \$5 ¼ Page - \$10

½ Page - \$20 Full Page - \$35

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT
MVMONTHLY@GMAIL.COM



Backcountry Horsemen of California **Mid Valley Unit**

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA
Mid Valley Unit
P.O. Box 1709
Modesto, California 95353

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED