BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA – MID VALLEY UNIT

Mid Valley Monthly

Volume 39 Issue 11
November 2026

www.bchcmidvalley.org
https://www.facebook.com/BCHCMV

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Photo by Gail Jamieson



2026 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

- President, **Barbara Riner*** | 209-402-4473 | rinerbarbara97@gmail.com
- Vice President, **Kaitlyn Rumsey*** | 209-768-5732 | kaitlynnrumsey@gmail.com
- Secretary, **Cathy Dollarhide**** | 209-602-1489 | bootsandspur@att.net
- Treasurer, **Vicki Morales*** | 209-404-0561 | vickimorales@sbcglobal.net
- **Crystal Dalby*** | 209-968-0483 | crystal_dalby322@yahoo.com
- **Doug Dollarhide*** | 209-605-2403 | bootsandspur@att.net
- **Lloyd Erlandson**** | 209-761-3942 | lloyd.erlandson0@gmail.com
- **Nicole Jones*** | 209-918-1665 | niccanride@yahoo.com
- **Michael King**** | 209-606-8323 | mickngig@sbcglobal.net
- **John Marshall**** | 209-968-3826 | johnvmarshall@icloud.com
- **Carl Perry**** | 209-321-5410 | hayloftpigeon@aol.com
- **Dennis Serpa**** | 209-531-5175 | dmserpa@velociter.net
- **Stephanie Stott**** | 209-402-4417 | horsebiz66@yahoo.com
- **Jim Westmoreland*** | 209-815-3125 | jimwestmorelandsem@gmail.com

STATE BOARD PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS

- BCHC President, **Doug Dollarhide**
- Board Members, **Lloyd Erlandson, Michael King, and Vicki Morales**
- **Dennis Serpa** - *Alternate*

*Time Remaining: *=1 Year **=2 Years*

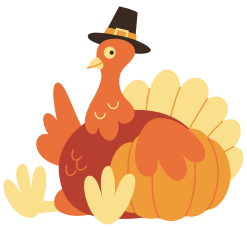


2026 COMMITTEE CHAIRS - ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

- Blasts & Announcements (via email only) - **Gail Jamieson** | bchcmidvalleynews@gmail.com
- Dutch Oven & Unit Trailer - **Larry Souza** | 209-613-8293
- Education - **Nicole Jones** | 209-918-1665 | niccanride@yahoo.com
- Insurance - **Lloyd Erlandson** | 209-761-3942 | lloyd.erlandson0@gmail.com
- Kennedy Meadows General Meeting - **Stephanie Stott** | 209-402-4417 | horsebiz66@yahoo.com
- Membership Chair - **Kaitlyn Rumsey** | 209-768-5732 | kaitlynnrumsey@gmail.com
- Merchandise - **Stephanie Stott** | 209-402-4417 | horsebiz66@yahoo.com
- Newsletter -
  - **Kathy Zumbrunn** | 209-765-4923 | runningzranch@gmail.com
  - **Gail Jamieson** | 209-918-8869 | mvmonthly@gmail.com
- Pack Team -
  - **Carl Perry** | 209-321-5410 | hayloftpigeon@aol.com
  - **Doug Dollarhide** | 209-605-2403 | bootsandspur@att.net
- Parades - **Carlena Kellogg** | 209-505-0122 | ladyroughrider1@yahoo.com
- Parade - Columbia All Equestrian Parade - **Barbara Savery** | 209-743-3580 | bjsavery@att.net
- Peoria Flat Project - **Jim Westmoreland** | 209-815-3125 | jimwestmorelandsem@gmail.com
- Photographer - **Aida Nunes** | 209-620-1759 | aidaitzelnunes@gmail.com
- Public Lands - **Dennis Serpa** |209-531-5175 | dmserpa@velociter.net
- Rides - **Jim Westmoreland** | 209-815-3125 | jimwestmorelandsem@gmail.com
- Saw Program Stanislaus Wilderness - **Dave Moser** | 209-404-1372 | davemoser53@hotmail.com
- Social Media/Facebook- **Stephanie Stott** | 209-402-4417 | horsebiz66@yahoo.com
- Spring Campout - **Carl Perry** | 209-321-5410 | hayloftpigeon@aol.com
- Sunshine - **Crystal Dalby** | 209-968-0483 | crystal_dalby322@yahoo.com
- Youth Activities, Youth Horse Camp - **Doug Dollarhide** | 209-605-2403 | bootsandspur@att.net
- Volunteer Hours - **Crystal Dalby** | 209-968-0483 | crystal_dalby322@yahoo.com
- Volunteer Service Projects - **Carl Perry** | 209-321-5410 | hayloftpigeon@aol.com
- Webmaster - **Eileen Forte** | 209-622-0654 | eileen@webdesignjustforyou.com
- Winter Round Up -
  - **Barbara Riner** | 209-402-4473 | rinerbarbara97@gmail.com
  - **Kaitlyn Rumsey** | 209-768-5732 | kaitlynnrumsey@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Barbara Riner



Hello everyone!
As we approach the busy holiday season, I wanted to do something a little different with this month's message. Rather than talking about upcoming events and everything we have going on, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what makes our unit so special.



One thing I've come to appreciate about being part of Backcountry Horsemen is that it's about so much more than horses (mules and donkeys too, of course) trail rides and preserving our access to public lands. It's also about the people we meet along the way. Over the years, friendships have been made, memories have been shared, and we've built a wonderful group of people who genuinely enjoy coming together for a common purpose.

Life gets busy, and I know we all have plenty going on outside of this organization. Between family, work, and everyday responsibilities, it isn't always easy to find the time to get involved. That's why I truly appreciate those who continue to show up, lend a hand, and support our unit in any way that they can. Every little bit makes a big difference.
With Thanksgiving right around the corner, I hope everyone gets the opportunity to slow down, spend time with loved ones, and enjoy the things that matter most. I'm thankful for the friendships and experiences this organization has brought into my life, and I look forward to seeing what the new year brings for us all.



Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families!
Barbara Riner

Calendar of Events

For details and additional current events: www.bchcmidvalley.org/calendar.html

***NOTE:** All events subject to change.*

NOVEMBER 2026



November 26
Happy Thanksgiving

DECEMBER 2026



December 5
Christmas at the Barn Dutch Oven Cookout. See article in this issue.
Lorina's Edible Garden, Escalon, CA
Contact: Cathy Dollarhide
209-602-1489 | bootsandspur@att.net

December 13
Columbia All Equestrian Christmas Parade
Columbia, CA
Contact: Carlena Kellogg 209-505-0122
or Barbara Savery 209-743-3580
bjsavery@att.net

December 15
Mid Valley Ride: Pardee Reservoir
Meet at Campo Seco Staging Area
Ride out at 10 a.m.
EBMUD One (1) permit is good for four (4) riders. A permit is required!
Contact: Jim Westmoreland 209-815-3125
jimwestmorelandsem@gmail.com

JANUARY 2027

January 1
New Year's Day Ride
Red Hills Trailhead
Contact: Jim Westmoreland 209-815-3125
jimwestmorelandsem@gmail.com

January 15
First 2027 Lucky Calendar Drawing!
$500 Prize

UPCOMING EVENTS



Winter Round-Up
January 9, 2027
Perry's Party Barn, Hilmar, CA
Contact: Kaitlyn Rumsey 209-768-5732
kaitlynnrumsey@gmail.com

Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.
December 8, 2026
January 12, 2027
February 9, 2027
Perko's, 2120 Patterson Road, Riverbank
Contact: Barbara Riner
209-402-4473 | rinerbarbara97@gmail.com



BCHC STATE EVENTS

February 6, 2027
BCHC State Board Meeting
Carl & Julie Perry's in Hilmar
Contact: Carl Perry
209-321-5410 | hayloftpigeon@aol.com

Sunshine

By Crystal Dalby
209-968-0483
crystal_dalby322@yahoo.com

Healing prayers to Carolyn Sizemore. She had surgery on her shoulder.

Terri Arington can use some positive thoughts and prayers sent her way.

Carlena Kellogg's horse, Merlin, has an injury to his eye. Hoping the veterinarian is able to diagnose and treat quickly!

Prayers to Dan Prine and family as they mourn the loss of Dan's brother, Steve.

Vernon Storment's brother passed away. Prayers to him and his family!

My own father, Richard, passed away October 20. He was 82.

Kathy Zumbrunn is home recovering from a surgery. We hope you feel better soon.

Barbara Savery recently had a pacemaker implanted, and as soon as she returned home, she noticed her horse was colicking! So, she had to get the veterinarian out right away! Both are doing fine now.

We send Sunshine to all others who may not have reached me. 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!

🎉Happy Birthday🎉

Vicki Whisler
Jody Rumsey
Nicole Jones



Quote of the Month

By Gail Jamieson

"In any relationship there are two points of view. One is not more valuable than the other. The challenge is to find the equilibrium between the two sets of needs. When the balance of emotional and physical needs are met the horse and rider can harmonize."

From "Riding In The Sweet Light"
Quotes by Jim Hicks





Christmas At The Barn Event Needs Our Dutch Oven Cooks!

By Gail Jamieson

We, as BCHC Mid Valley Unit members, have been invited to Dutch oven cook our favorite recipes and give out samples to the public on December 5, at Lorina's Edible Garden, "Christmas at the Barn" Event.

The location is: 17397 Enterprise Road, Escalon, CA 95320

If you would like to Dutch oven cook at this event, please contact **Cathy Dollarhide.**

Phone: 209-602-1489

Email: bootsandspur@att.net

Vendors will be set up for Christmas shopping. Santa and the Grinch will be there! See the event flyer on this page.



Lucky Calendar Fundraiser Report

By Kathy Zumbrunn

Well, our Lucky Calendar Fundraiser is off and running. I must say that it is a slow start for most of the 20 units, but Mid Valley Unit is really strutting their stuff and doing a fantastic job! So far, Mid Valley has sold 158 calendar/raffle tickets, many more are handed out to sell, and I only have 60 left in my possession! I have orders for some and am trying to get calendars to those who call or email me. Those of you in the Sonora area are advised to contact either Kaitlyn Rumsey: 209-768-5732 or Terri Arington: 209-768-7076. We only have approximately six weeks to finish selling all of the calendar/tickets as the first drawing is January 15th! I must have time to enter all the data into the tracking sheet in order to get the tickets into the tumbler!

Just for your information, here is the breakdown of all the units' sales that I have received:

Antelope Valley: 11
Kern River Valley: 5
Kern Sierra: 6
Manzanita Riders: 8
Mid Valley: 158
Sierra Freepackers: 22
Top of the State: 36



Anyway, thank you Mid Valley members for stepping up and selling/buying these tickets! Keep up the great work! We know how to "Get 'er done!"

Seeking Director Candidates

By Michael King

Dear Mid Valley Unit members:

Early this coming January at the annual Winter Round-Up, elections will be held for 7 of the Mid Valley Unit directors. Of the 7 terming-out directors, all have committed to rerun for their respective positions. However, new thinking and new minds are always a good thing for any organization. Consequently, we are looking for members who would like to have a hand in making unit decisions and setting a forward course for the Mid Valley Unit.

The job is not difficult at all and there are plenty of people to mentor you as you settle into the position. The director will have one monthly meeting of about 2 hours to attend and will be asked to help with some aspect of unit activities. The position runs for two years.

Please consider throwing your hat into the ring. Everyone has something to contribute, and we would very much like to see your ideas.

Someone wise once said that “one gets out of an organization as much as they are willing to put into it.” So here now is your opportunity!

Please let me know of your interest by email and I will put your name on the ballot. mickngig@sbcglobal.net or by calling me at 209-606-8323

Thank you all for your interest and consideration of becoming a director candidate, and for your continued support of the Mid Valley Unit through your membership.



Columbia All Equestrian Christmas Parade

SUNDAY DECEMBER 13 2026

PARADE AT 11:00AM SHARP JUDGING AT 9AM

—A RAIN OR SHINE EVENT—



Come Join Us!

All Equestrian Parade on Columbia State Park's Main Street
This event is Open to All Ages of Equine Riders & Drivers.
Bring an Unwrapped Toy
For ATCAA's Housing Families Program.

PARADE ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY: TUESDAY DECEMBER 1ST 2026
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ENTRY FORMS PLEASE CONTACT:
BARBARA SAVERY • (209) 743-3580 • BJSAVERY@ATT.NET

Proudly Sponsored by Mid Valley Unit, Backcountry Horsemen of California

2026 Columbia All Equestrian Christmas Parade

By Carlena Kellogg



We are excited to announce the 2026 Columbia All Equestrian Christmas Parade will be held on Sunday, December 13th at 11a.m. This is a rain or shine parade.

We need a few members to ride and carry flags, as well as others to walk and carry banners. Please arrive between 8-8:30 a.m.

We will be staging our group behind Columbia Elementary School. Use Airport Road, off Parrotts Ferry Road and follow the signs. Please be aware that parking trailers on California State Park property is prohibited. Columbia State Park is on Jackson Street in Columbia.

Following the parade, we invite you to join us for a potluck lunch held in our staging/parking area. MVU will supply pulled pork sandwiches, plates, flatware, etc. Bring your own drink and a chair.

We need a few attendees to bring simple breakfast snacks, others to add to our potluck luncheon selection.

Please RSVP your attendance, so I can gather everyone for judging, plus know how much food to provide. Last year we ran out of food due to many people joining us for lunch.

Additionally, this is a toy drive for a Tuolumne County organization, ACTAA's Family Housing Program. There will be a spot to drop off an unwrapped toy near Carlena's horse trailer. Let's support kids in need and help them have a merrier Christmas.

Lastly, you must be a BCHC member to walk or ride in the parade. I will have membership forms available that morning, so bring a personal check. It is the only way to pay for membership.

For more information and to sign up for the parade, please contact Carlena by phone or text.

MVU Parade Chairman
Carlena Kellogg
209-505-0122



Help Needed for the Columbia All Equestrian Christmas Parade

By Barbara Savery

Hi, everyone. I'm reaching out for referrals to someone who might be able to help us with manure removal at the Columbia All Equestrian Parade. I found out Thursday that the person we have been using won't be able to help us, so I need to locate a person or group who can take this on as soon as possible. The parade may hang in the balance. If you have any leads, please let me know as soon as possible. The date is Sunday, December 13.
Thank you for your help.

Contact Barbara Savery phone: 209-743-3580 email: bjsavery@att.net

WINTER Round Up

Dinner Prepared
Ribs & Chicken
Adult $45/Children $20
by Blodgett Catering

When: January 9th
Time: 4:00 pm Social
5:00 pm Meeting/Pack Team
5:30 pm Dinner (No Host Bar)
Location: Perry Party Barn
Hilmar, CA

Bring a raffle prize and get 5 free tickets!
There will be an appetizer and dessert table.
Please bring a dish that will feed 10-12 people based on last name.
Last Name Starting With A-M: Dessert
Last Name Starting With N-Z: Appetizer

Agenda:
- ★ General Meeting
- ★ Election Of Directors
- ★ Raffle
- ★ Live Auction
- ★ Pack Team Presentation

Reservations Needed By: January 1st
Attendance by RSVP ONLY
NO REFUNDS AFTER JANUARY 1ST

Live Music Provided by:
Lance Kell

Reservation Forms Must Be Received **BY JANUARY 1st, 2027**
Send to Kaitlyn Rumsey at 19448 Rawhide Rd, Sonora, CA, 95370
Please call or text (209)768-5732 with any questions
Make Checks Payable to BCHC Mid Valley
Name(s): Please include **ALL NAMES** if registering for a group

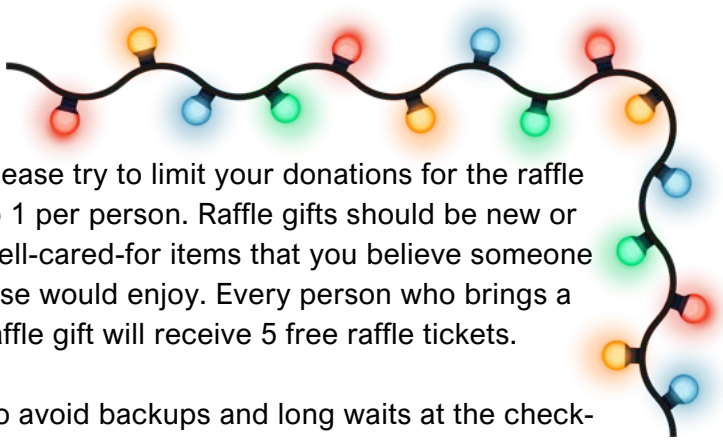
_____

_____

Number Of Attendees: Adult (12+)_____ X $45=_____
Children (7-12)_____ X $20=_____
Children (6 & Under Free)_____ Total=_____

Winter-Round-Up Information

By Kaitlyn Rumsey



The 2027 Winter Round-Up is quickly approaching! Please make sure to send in your RSVP forms to
Kaitlyn Rumsey
19448 Rawhide Rd, Sonora, CA, 95370
BY THE DEADLINE OF JANUARY 1, 2027.
Reservations will be required to attend, but the event is open to the public. Since dinners must be ordered through the caterer before the event, there will be no refunds after the January 1st RSVP deadline. Thank you so much to the Perrys' for allowing us to use their beautiful barn to have the event!
There will be an appetizer and a dessert table. Please make sure that the dessert or appetizer you bring will feed 10-12 people. If you are unsure what to bring, please follow the guidelines below based on your last name.
Last Name Starting with A-M: Dessert
Last Name Starting with N-Z: Appetizer

We will have labels for dishes that are homemade or do not have ingredients listed on the packaging that we will ask people to fill out so we know what the dish is and if it contains any allergens (nuts, dairy, soy, etc.) While this may take a little time when you arrive, it is very important for those with allergies and food sensitivities to be aware of what is in the food we all bring.

Please try to limit your donations for the raffle to 1 per person. Raffle gifts should be new or well-cared-for items that you believe someone else would enjoy. Every person who brings a raffle gift will receive 5 free raffle tickets.

To avoid backups and long waits at the check-in table, we will allow everyone to check in, then begin selling raffle tickets. This will also allow all the raffle items to be out before people begin putting their tickets in. **If there is an item that you would like to see put in the live auction, please contact Kaitlyn BEFORE THE EVENT.**

Social hour will begin at 4 p.m. At 5 p.m., there will be a presentation from the Mid Valley-sponsored 2026 World Champion Bishop Mule Days Interscholastic Pack Team, general meeting, and election of directors. Blodgett Catering will cater dinner and serve at about 5:30 p.m. Be sure to stay after dinner for music provided by Lance Kell, a live auction, and a raffle.
For any questions, please call or text Kaitlyn Rumsey at 209-768-5732. If she does not answer a phone call, please leave a voicemail with your name.

Volunteer Hours Needed

By Kathy Zumbrunn

The deadline for volunteer hours is coming up soon. It takes time to calculate all the information, so if you have done work parties, headed up a Dutch oven event, or any other volunteer project, please get these hours totaled and sent in to Crystal Dalby right away! Don't flood her with information at the last minute!
If you need the form, text or email her, and she will send it to you: 209-968-0483 or crystal_dalby322@yahoo.com
Do it now…don't wait!
Thank you.

Remembering Rendezvous 2026

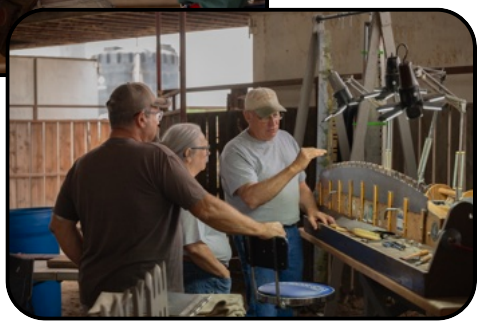


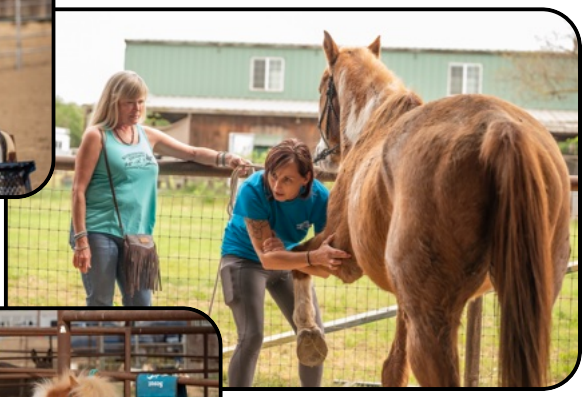






















Mid Valley Monthly is an official monthly newsletter of Mid Valley Unit of the Backcountry Horsemen of California. It is an independent publication containing news and information consistent with the mission of BCHC and of interest to its members.
Circulation is approximately 360 copier per issue.

Editorial Team & Layout and Design
Kathy Zumbrunn and Gail Jamieson

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 no reflect the standards of this newsletter, or are inconsistent with the objectives and propose of the Backcountry Horseman 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 editors. Submitted content may be forwarded to *Backcountry News*, or any other journal, for re-publication without consent unless specifically requested.

2025
Max & Irene Cochrane Journalism Award
2009, 2010, 2011, 2023, & 2024

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 mvmonthly@gmail.com.
The editors reserve the right to accept, reject, or hold over late submissions.

Mid Valley Unit Website: www.bchcmidvalley.org

Webmaster: Eileen Forte | 209-622-0654 | eileen@webdesignjustforyou.com

Membership Dues Due

Upcoming expiring memberships...

Use this link to download BCHC Membership Form

If you would like the form mailed to you contact Kathy Zumbrunn | 209-765-4923 | runningzranch@gmail.com

November

Matt Bloom
Diane Chaulklin
Seth Diemel
Denise Gilseth & James Kelley
Randy & Leticia Hopp
Jenniffer Latta & Harry Strawbridge
Brenda McKay
Doug Morgan
Ann Price
Cinnamon Rigmaiden
Hannah Rodrigues
Carolyn Sizemore

December

Kimberly Capps
John & Crystal Dalby
Dennise Davis
Garrett & Ashley Dollarhide
Kristen Forrest Family
Davey & Jillian Fraser
Allison Hartman Family
Matthew Jackson
Mary Johnson
Roy Jones
Carlena Kellogg & Steve Kellogg
Kevin Kirschman
Jeanne Lucas
Kimberlie & Remmi Magney
Debbie Marshall & Dan Bronson
Kristi & Alex Moore
Olivia Moschetti
Dennis & Jaymie Ponte
Katherine Reeves
Marilyn Rickman
Serene Schaner
Amer & Payton Schmallinger
Brandon & Amber Stevenson
Darlene Tucker

January

Terri Arington
Karen Barindelli
David & Nancy Broce
Jane Cloud
Peter & Suzanne Dean
Joe & Terry DeCosta
Rudy Dezzani
Dan & Cathy Dunckel
Lloyd & Susan Erlandson
John & Juliana Feriani
Aaron Ford & Jean Cardona
Dan & Debi Fox
Cindy Geer
Colette Ghan Family
Billie & Cody Gunderson
Debbie Inskeep
Jeanne Jenkins
Jeremy & Kristine Kassahn
David & Kristine Kraft
Scott & Debra Lewis
Julie Ann Livingston
Chris & Kelsey Markus
Chris O'Brien
Dan & Toni Peterson
Randy & Genell Powell
Kaitlyn Rumsey
Jean White
Dave & Karen Whitehead

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

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