

Back Country Horsemen of New Mexico Lower Rio Grande Chapter

March 2011
Newsletter

P.O. Box 445, Radium Springs, NM 88054

President: Pat Buls, gentletamer1@peoplepc.com

V.P.: Don Patterson, donpat37@hotmail.com

Secretary: Joyce Getrost, jgetrost@hotmail.com

Website: <http://lowerriogrande.bchnm.org>

BCHNM: <http://www.bchnm.org>

BCHA: www.backcountryhorse.com



PRESIDENT'S PROSE

Well, the days are getting longer, but time seems to be flying by faster and faster... We're having some really pretty weather in between wind storms, and making some great rides around scenic southern New Mexico. We patrolled Soledad Canyon for trash on a gorgeous day in February. We shared Broad Canyon with some geology students doing a survey and lots of four-wheeled rock climbers taking the Chili Challenge. Then we drove WAY out to the Potrillo Mountains and rode along the foot of Mount Riley for several miles, and back through a grassy plain with some friendly jack rabbits, some elusive javelina, and some thirsty cattle. It was a great training ride and the weather was perfect, but let's all pray for rain to get a little green goin'.

Our BLM Outdoor Recreation Planner, Oz Gomez, will be at our March meeting at the Branigan Library to talk to us about current BLM projects that we may help with.

The Farm and Ranch Museum's Cowboy Days is the second weekend in March: 10 am to 5 pm both Saturday and Sunday. There are lots of interesting exhibits and entertainment. We will have our usual booth behind the Dairy Barn and our old pardner Tom Bryant will be giving packing demonstrations while we recruit new BCH members and enjoy the festivities. Be sure and take the time to help out for awhile at our booth and join the fun!

We'll be exploring the Corralitos Ranch on the 19th of March. Join us -- we all need to start leggin' up our horses in preparation for goin' to the mountains when it warms up!

Ron Parker will represent us at the New Mexico Equine Industry Summit at the end of the month, and Tom and I will be at the BCHNM Board Meeting that weekend.

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 2011 CHAPTER MEETING

Time and Date: 6:30 February 10, 2011 at Southwest Environment Center

Attendees: Joyce Getrost, Pat Buls, Jane Thomas, Nathan Small, Kathi-Jane Alvarado, Latana Bernier, Kathy Boyer

David Kaden from Specialized Saddles gave a presentation on "Quest for Comfort" – what to look for in fitting a saddle for you and your horse.

New Business:

Pat met with BLM District Manager Bill Childress and Tom Phillips, Recreation & Cultural Resources Specialist. They discussed new developments in the Camino Real. There are new parking areas north of Rincon, Upham exit. The upper lot is best for horses.

Our monthly meetings have been moved to the Branigan Library, upstairs in the Board room, 6:30, second Thursday.

Members were encouraged to attend Cowboy Days on March 12-13. We will have a table and demo packing skills. Latana Bernier volunteered her donkey for the job of packing and pleasing the children.

Ride near Deming – Nathan Small will check on scheduling a ride in the Deming area.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

March 12/13: Cowboy Days at the NM Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum, 10 am-5pm both days. Come help tell folks about the BCH and learn a bit about packin' in.

March 19: Coyote Canyon on the Corralitos Ranch. We will meet at 10 am at Love's truck stop on I-10 west of Las Cruces and caravan from there.

March 26: BCHNM Board Meeting, Bernardo, and the NM Equine Industry Summit in Clovis.

April 2: Cook's Peak ride. We will meet at the Radium Springs Exit on I-25 north of Las Cruces (on the east side of the freeway) at 9:00 am, and caravan to Cook's Peak.

April 16: Jimmy Durante Ride for charity at Arrey, NM. For details, call Trinna: 575-640-8482.

CLASSIFIEDS

Riding lessons and horses trained in a gentle, low-stress environment, including arena obstacles and trail riding, with dressage basics. Good Trail Horses for Sale. Call Pat Buls, The Gentle Tamer, at 505-990-7801 or 575-571-0221.

Websites of our Congressmen, where you can get their email addresses:

<http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/default.aspx>

US Senator Jeff Bingaman: <http://bingaman.senate.gov> Phone# 800-443-8658

US Senator Tom Udall: <http://udall.senate.gov> Phone# 202-224-6621

Representative Steve Pearce's website with contact info: <http://pearce.house.gov/>

Equine Land Conservation Resource: www.elcr.org

New Mexico Horse Council: www.nmhorsecouncil.org

Information on the Rio Grande Trail:

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/PRD/riograndeconcept.htm>

For up-to-date info on National Forests and BLM areas, go to <http://www.nmfireinfo.com> or http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc/information/firerestrictions/nm/restrictions_nm.htm.

The website of the New Mexico DOT BPE (Bicycle/Pedestrian/Equestrian trails):

<http://www.nmshtd.state.nm.us/main.asp?secid=11190>