

Trail Times

www.GoldCountryTrailsCouncil.org



Official Publication of the Gold Country Trails Council

A non-profit incorporated association formed in 1981 to develop, maintain and protect non-motorized recreational trails in the Sierra Foothills area for public use and enjoyment.

January President's Message

Happy New Year Gold Country Members!

2016 is here and we have a lot to look forward to in the upcoming months: trail work, 2016 Poker Ride, GCTC BBQ ride, campouts/workdays, and of course, our member-led trail rides. You are encouraged to bring your ideas and suggestions for improving our mission.

At the January meeting we will be fine tuning the 2016 calendar and asking for members' participation. You will note that Trail Boss names are needed to fill in the blanks. Please review the dates and commit to coming out and joining your fellow members on the work days. As most of you know, the rewards are many: you get to meet members, learn the trails, work up a little sweat, and enjoy a delicious lunch. And most importantly, your work keeps the trails open for equestrians!

In addition, the results of the 2015 Top Hand award voting will be announced. Thank you to all who took the time to send in your votes. The perpetual trophy will be presented at the meeting to this deserving recipient.

The GCTC Board fully appreciates that none of this organization's success would be possible without you, the membership.

Looking forward to a fabulous year with all of you out on the trail!

Laura Duncan, President



Robert Ribley swearing in 2016 GCTC Officers, left to right: Laura Duncan, President, Melissa Ribley, Vice President, Merv Kril, Charles Green and Fran Cole, Board Members, Teri Personeni, Treasurer and Karen Schwartz, Acting Secretary.

**Tuesday, January 12, 2015
at 7:00 P.M.**

**Nevada County Horsemen Clubhouse
10600 Bubbling Wells
Grass Valley, CA**

Lindsey Mulvany, a representative from U.S. Rider Equestrian Insurance, will be the speaker at the January General Membership Meeting. She will be speaking to us about the great benefits that come along with a membership to U.S. Rider via Skype.



**IT'S NOT TO LATE
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2016 Newsletter &
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Place your business card size advertisement in the GCTC Newsletter for just \$25.00. Your ad will appear in the six issues of the 2016 GCTC Newsletter and in the annual GCTC Phone Book Directory. If you would prefer, you can place your ad in any one of the six issues for \$5.00 per issue. (members only).

The Newsletter is distributed to all GCTC members, affiliate members, and appears on GCTC Web site.

To place your ad contact GCTC Newsletter Editor, Lynn Mangel,

The Gold Country Trail Council would like to recognize the following individuals for their generous donations.

**Cherie Harter
An LaBarre and Dinah Gibbs
Sherry Warren
Vonnie Bays
Ken and Karen Segal**

GCTC members are not always able to participate in workdays or other activities but want to contribute to the support of the important work that the Gold Country Trail Council does throughout the year. We appreciate their donations and support.

Howdy and Welcome to our newest members!!



Angela Canessa
Kristi Christianson

<http://www.goldcountrytrailsCouncil.org>

Leaders

Camp Cook & Coordinator: Debbie Malloy
Communications, Web Site and Social Media: Jaede Miloslavich 530 346-9933 jaede@sbbmail.com
Forest Service Liaison: Willie Brusin
Historian: Sandy Dent
Hospitality: Gail Plakos and Maryann Jorgenson
Little Lasier Meadow: Mary Johnson
Lone Grave: Harry and Karen Wyeth
Membership: Mary Johnson 530-477-8501
mjshasta@aol.com
Newsletter Editor: Lynn Mangel 530-432-6979
quailhollowpv@me.com
Phone Tree: Irv Mazur
Poker Ride Fundraiser: **Open**
Program Director: Melissa Ribley
Publicity: **Open**
Sunshine: **Open**
Skillman: Linda Lanzoni
Tool Storage and Maintenance: Willie Brusin
Trail Rides: Jamie Canon
United Trails Work Day: Irv Mazur

**Gold Country Trails
Council Officers**

President: Laura Duncan 268-1219
ldhorses@sbbmail.com
V.P.: Melissa Ribley 268-1378
mmribley@gmail.com
Acting Secretary: Karen Schwartz
karen-schwartz@prodigy.net
Treasurer: Terry Personeni 273-9144
teri@terobmorgans.com
Past President: Karen Schwartz
karen-schwartz@prodigy.net
Board Member: Merv Kril 273-6654
Board Member: Fran Cole 272-6363
mooncancewalk@sbcglobal.net
Board Member: Charles Green 530-268-3905
cgreen4564@gmail.com

Harmony In Motion



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Proposed Gold Country Trails Council - 2016 Calendar

JANUARY

January 12 General Meeting - 7 p.m.
Nevada County Horsemen Clubhouse
(NCHI), 10600 Bubbling Wells Rd.
Grass Valley

FEBRUARY

February 9 Board Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley

MARCH

March 8 General Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley

March 12 Spenceville Day Ride
Trail Boss TBA

March 19 Spenceville Day Ride (rain date)

APRIL

April 12 Board Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley

April 17 Work Day - Lone Grave
Leader: TBA

April 24 Work Day - Lone Grave (rain date)

MAY

May 7 Cronan Ranch Day Ride
Trail Boss: TBA

May 10 General Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley

May 11 Work Day - Skillman
Leader: Melissa & Robert Ribley

May 12-14 Pioneer Trail Work/Ride - Skillman:
Karen Schwartz

May 20 Skillman Opens

JUNE

June 4 GCTC Annual Poker Ride Fundraiser
Leader: TBA

June 14 Board Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley

June 17-19 Wild West Endurance Ride
(non GCTC event)

June 24-25 Little Lasier Meadow Camp/Work/Ride
Leader: Mary Johnson

JULY

July 9 Royal Gorge Day Ride
Trail Boss: TBA

July 12 General Mtg./Ice Cream Soc. - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley

July 14-17 Loney Meadow Camp/Work/Ride
Leader: Teri Personeni

July 16 Loney Meadow Work Day

July 23 Western States Endurance Ride
(Tevis) (non GCTC event)

AUGUST

August 9 Board Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley

August 10-14 Nevada County Fair (non-GCTC event)

August 24 Work Day - Upper Pioneer Trail
Leader: TBA

August 30 East Bay Hills Trail Benefit Ride
(non GCTC event)

SEPTEMBER

September 13 General Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley

September 17 Work Day: TBA

September 22-25 Draft Horse Classic Fair
(non GCTC event)

September ? Skillman Campground Closes

OCTOBER

October 8 United Trails Day/Workday
Leader: Irv Mazur

October 11 Board Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley

October 22 Lone Grave Ride/BBQ
Leader: TBA

October 29 Lone Grave Ride/BBQ (rain date)
Leader: TBA

NOVEMBER

November 8 General Mtg./Thanksgiving Feast - 5:30 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley

DECEMBER

December 13 Board Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley



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UNITED TRAILS DAYS

HEY TEAM!

I just want to thank all of you "trail blazers" for doing such a spectacular job today!!! You are all amazing!! The amount of work that we had completed I believe really impressed the Forest Service personnel!!! I know it impressed me!!

We had 41 (FORTY ONE!!) Gold Country folks & five friends of Gold Country Trails Council. For those of you that didn't make it, you missed a really fun day!!!

We rerouted approximately 2-1/2 miles of trail and finished a lot of food! I don't think that I will be able to eat until Tuesday evening and then, just desert!!

Again, thank you all so much for making this "United Trails Day" a great success.

Submitted by, Irv Mazur



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SUPPORT GCTC AND BE SEEN AT GCTC FUNCTIONS

Check out the new GCTC T-Shirts

T-Shirts are available in short or long sleeves; sizes Small, Medium, Large and X-Large; in green, gold, orange and grey. Short sleeve Ts are \$10, long sleeve Ts are \$12.

They are available for sale at the General Membership Meetings, special arrangement by contacting member Mary Johnson @MJShasta@aol.com or calling Mary at 477-8501

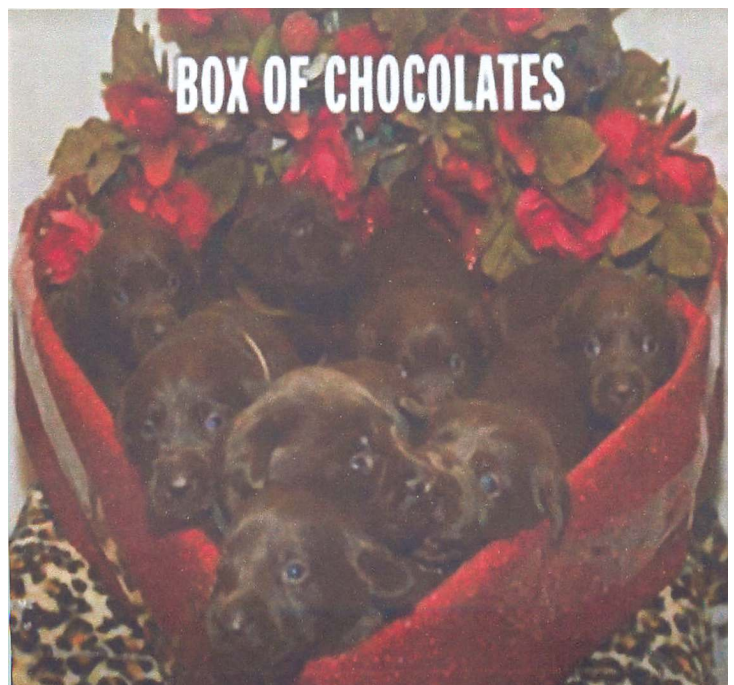
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Gold Rush Shuffle

November 30, 2015 was the last day of 3 day Gold Rush Shuffle endurance ride at Camp Far West. Vicki Testa and Laura Duncan decided this was a great way to finish up the year. What a surprise when the weather proved to be a freezing challenge. Temperatures were below 30 degrees at the start. The landscape was frozen white.

Ride management agreed to allow early morning vet in prior to the ride. Unfortunately, they were not aware that the gate would not be open at 5.30 am for the 6.30 am ride start. In spite of a 45 minute delay the two started the 50 mile ride. Bundled up against the freezing temperatures, the weather was not too bad. Horses were feeling frisky and eager to keep moving.

There are a number of gates that had to be opened and closed on this ride. Mark Montgomery happened to be at one of the gates and generously opened and closed for them. This of course was as he was coming in for finish and they were headed in for lunch stop. He came in 3rd and Linda Montgomery came in 13th.

This was also an important endurance milestone for Vicki. She attained the 11,000 mile rider mileage award with the completion of this ride.



Eventually, Vicki and Laura rode into camp for a successful finish before sunset with sound horses.

Submitted by, Laura Duncan

www.GoldCountryTrailsCouncil.org



Mary Margaretich
Realtor
(530) 913-9571 cell
(530) 798-4466 office
MaryM4RE@Gmail.com




AGENDA

GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL
Tuesday, December 17, 2015, 7 PM
Nevada County Horsemen's Clubhouse
10600 Bubbling Wells Rd.
Grass Valley, CA

Attending:

President: Karen Schwartz
2016 President: Laura Duncan
Secretary: Karen Wyeth
2016 Secretary: Mary Lundin
Treasurer: Teri Personeni

Board Members:

Vicki Testa (2015)/Merv Kril (2016)
Charles Green

Forest Service Liaison: Willie Brusin
Membership Chair: Mary Johnson

Others:

Sue Brusin
Gail Plakos

1. Call to Order: Karen Schwartz called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. She welcomed the new board members and thanked those who are leaving.
2. Minutes were not taken at the Thanksgiving feast. They will be written and submitted as soon as possible.
3. Approval of Treasurer's Report: The current bank balance is \$27,985.42. Teri reported that an outside audit is too expensive and not necessary for an organization with a low income. We can ask at the Jan. meeting for a member to volunteer to review our finances. Karen Schwartz has completed the form for directors and officers insurance. (Through a later email, Fran Cole informed us that Larry Viegas hadn't received it, so she provided it to him. We should receive a quote soon.) We will continue to contract for the Horsemen's Assn. room. Charles explained that we are charged for the large room for membership meetings, but not for the board meetings in the small room. Tom Stevenson does the booking. Jaede is borrowing a sound system for the Jan. meeting.
4. Forest Service Report:
Cable Trail - Paul Hart is still waiting for clearance of the reroute. He expects trail construction to occur in the spring of 2016.

Burlington Ridge - Paul and Rob are re-signing the Burlington Ridge area. Motorized trails should have unique colors. A final map will be made after the re-signing. Willie and Sue will meet with Paul in Jan. to hopefully receive a final trail map. He is working with Jet Lowe to make it official. The road will be marked. Vicki will attend the meeting with Willie and Sue.

Bullpen Lake Trail - There is a 60' easement for NEPA purposes to modify the steep part of the trail. Paul will flag it near the Lindsay Lake road sign for the GCTC Loney Meadow work day.

Lang's Crossing - The creek crossings are still in the planning stage. Paul wants to use natural material to avoid doing a review under NEPA.

Bowman Mountain Trail - The new trail needs to have less of a slope and it will go outside of the 60' easement. The steps will be removed. The planning for this with BONC has not been announced.

United Trails Day - The date to reroute the Pioneer Trail below Chalk Bluff Road has not been announced. Once the date is set, it will not be changed.

Skillman Campground - Linda Lanzoni hasn't been able to get a quote for the corrals. The recreation.gov function is going out to bid in 2016. Trash collection service has been expensive. Regular service must be paid for whether the camp is used or not. It may be possible to have on-demand service. We should pay contractors directly for any work we pay for.

5. Old Business:

Membership - Mary reported that 25 renewals are outstanding. It declined from 100. Gail Plakos will be the hospitality chair.

2015 Calendar Events -

United Trails Day - GCTC had a good turnout, better than other groups. Debbie Malloy will continue as food chair for work days.

Thanksgiving Feast - Mary Lundin said that we didn't have enough social time. The meeting and dinner were at the same time and the program was during dessert. Mary Johnson suggested that we give members a chance to volunteer and then have the election if needed before the dinner. The election should be by secret ballot. The board will discuss these suggestions further during 2016.

2016 Calendar of Events - Cecelia should be able to block reservations for the Poker Ride, scheduled for June 4. She should be informed as soon as possible. Lazier scheduled for 6/25; Loney for 7/14 through 17. Merv will check date for Cronan ride to avoid conflict with any group event. Ask for trail bosses at the Jan. meeting. The Pioneer Ride can include work, so there should be no charge. Work in the morning, ride in the afternoon. People could camp for 2 nights. We should do this 3 days before Skillman opens. We should work with Melissa and Robert on planning the work. Check with Jaede regarding the Celebration of Trails Day. If we work at Skillman in May, we don't need to work there in July. Aug. work day will be Wed., Aug. 24. Sept. work day, 9/17. Teri recommended that we have a sign-up sheet for work days. Thanksgiving Feast will be 11/8. Hospitality volunteers should arrive at 5:00 with social time starting at 5:30. We should meet with BONC and Woods Riders in Jan. to coordinate schedules, especially the United Trails Day. The Top Hand award will be announced at the Jan. meeting.

Website/Facebook/Newsletter - Laura suggested that we officially appoint Jaede the Communication Chair. She could also benefit from having a back-up and a committee to help. The board agreed.

Governance Committee - We will discuss this at the Feb. board meeting when Fran can attend. Harry Wyeth submitted some legal information about what non-profits are able to do, in order to assist the board in deciding whether to pay for the Pioneer Ride. He was not intending to serve on the Governance Committee.

Trails Committee - Karen Wyeth reported that she has a draft map of the Loney Meadow area that she obtained from Jet Lowe. She passed out copies. The board approved posting it on the web site and having a larger laminated copy prepared by Walker's Stationery for the Jan. meeting.

6. New Business:

Pioneer Trail Joint Work Day - Mary Johnson will coordinate a joint work day with YBONC, BONC, and the Woods Riders on the Pioneer Trail.

“Big Project Vision Statement” - Karen Schwartz recommended writing a plan for the next 3 to 5 years. The board agreed that it is time to do this.

Irv Mazur suggested that we schedule a Wed. night out at the Holbrooke Hotel where he plays music. He will ask them if they would donate a percentage of the dinner income to GCTC.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

Submitted by Karen Wyeth, Secretary

GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 753
CEDAR RIDGE, CA 95924

Next Meeting
Tuesday, January 12
7 p.m