

Trail Times



www.GoldCountryTrailsCouncil.org



Official Publication of the Gold Country Trails Council

GCTC is an organization committed to develop, maintain and advocate for safe integrated trails for equestrians and other non-motorized users.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello GCTC Membership, I am taking this opportunity to address the issue that we are all following: the Coronavirus (COVID-19). It has to be taken seriously by our club, especially with the high percentage of 65+ year-old members. While the problem here is nothing compared to China or Italy, it does have the potential to become that serious without effective measures being taken.

My son, Bernie, is a Deputy Fire Chief for Lakeside District of San Diego. He is the agency's infectious disease control officer. I just spent the week with him, and he assures me COVID-19 does have the potential to be a life altering pandemic in our state. The recent instructions from the Governor's Office (closing pubs and bars, having individuals with health compromises and older than 65, isolating at home) are a thoughtful and effective plan at limiting exposure for at-risk people. Frequent hand washing and social distancing are also important and effective.

With the above on our mind, the GCTC leadership is evaluating how to move forward as a club. This includes possibly postponing club events (Poker Ride, workdays, guided rides, meetings, etc.) until we have a better understanding of the spread and scope of the disease over the next several weeks or possibly even months. We are actively discussing it at this time and will keep membership notified with "GCTC Official Email" alerts.

Stay safe, be smart, and watch for GCTC updates in your email.

~ **Bernie Molloy, President**

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Place your business card size advertisement in the GCTC publications for just \$5 per issue, or \$25 for the entire calendar year (6 issues). The Newsletter is distributed to all GCTC members, affiliate members, and appears on the GCTC website.

To place your ad, contact GCTC Newsletter Editor: Pamela Warmack @ cows2horses@gmail.com

<http://www.goldcountrytrailsCouncil.org>

Leaders

Camp Cook: Debbie Molloy
 Communications, Web Site and Social Media: Jaede Miloslavich jaede@sbbmail.com
 Forest Service Liaison: Mary Johnson mjshasta@aol.com
 GCTC Apparel Manager: Lea Zivic 530-748-9960
 Historian: OPEN
 Hospitality: Sharon Silver and Maryann Jorgenson 530-346-7175
 Little Lasier Meadow: Mary Johnson
 Membership: Heidi Hansen 916-215-5162 heidiehansen@gmail.com
 Newsletter Editor: Pamela Warmack cows2horses@gmail.com
 Parades: Linda Lanzoni linda@StarshineRanch.org
 Poker Ride Fundraiser: Elicia Kamberg 707-498-7306 ekamberg@gmail.com
 Program Director: Helen Crawford
 Publicity: Teresa Dietrich
 Refreshment Manager: OPEN
 Skillman Water Manager: Barry Vaccaro
 Skillman Campground: Elicia Kamberg
 Sunshine: Charlotte Chapman 530-268-1145 charlottechapman2@aol.com
 Tool Cache Manager: Suzanne & Barry Vaccaro
 Trail Rides: Jamie Canon
 Trail Workday Coordinator: Susan Donnelly

Gold Country Trails Council Officers

President: Bernie Molloy 530-802-4089 imarangemaster@gmail.com
 V.P.: Susan Donnelly 530-906-3093 susanfdonnelly@gmail.com
 Secretary: Cathy Chase (530) 205-0900 chasehc@gmail.com
 Treasurer: Cathy Scott 530-305-1982 ccharlie@suddenlink.net
 Past President: Helen Harvey 530-265-4086 helentharvey@icloud.com
 Board Member: Helen McDermott 530-478-0545 sugarpine1996@sbcglobal.net
 Board Member: Jamie Canon 530-265-8326 tra.jamiej@sbcglobal.net
 Board Member: Karen Hayden 530-575-5808 karenhayden@att.net



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				<p>MARCH 21 Sat. Spenceville Wildlife Area Day Ride-CANCELED</p> <p>APRIL 14 Tues. Board Meeting, 7 pm 18 Sat. Lone Grave TRAIL WORK DAY 22 Wed. "Tulip" Day Ride 25 or 26 TBD - GENERAL WORK DAY</p>	
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GET READY TO RIDE!



Ananda

Mark your calendars for GCTC day rides this year. Trail Ride Coordinator Jamie Canon will send out the particulars regarding each ride approximately two weeks prior to the ride. All the rides are generally at a walk, but we can also divvy up the hot shoes from those that want to mosey if need be.

Our "Tulip" day ride is April 22nd. We will ride through the grounds of Ananda with a tour of their beautiful gardens when the tulips are in bloom.

May 17th will be a ride out of the new staging area at Rice's Crossing, near Bullard's Bar Reservoir.



Rice's Crossing

We also have a day ride on our Calendar for May 21st with no destination determined yet. Let me know if you have ideas for a great place to hold a GCTC day ride.



Royal Gorge

July 11th is our day ride at Royal Gorge near Soda Springs. We had to cancel it last year due to too much snow. With our dry February, it certainly looked like it would be a "Go" this year, but with the most recent storms we'll have to wait and see.

Please RSVP if you plan to join a ride, so we know to expect you.

QUICK RULES for ALL GCTC TRAIL RIDES:

-Horses that kick - tie a red ribbon in their tail, keep your distance and stay in the back.

- Keep a minimum of one horse length behind and beside others.
- Please don't leave the ride without telling the Trail Boss!

We have more rides scheduled for the fall, and I will keep you informed as they come up. They will be listed on our calendar on the GCTC website: <http://www.goldcountrytrailsCouncil.org/calendar--events.html>.

Thank you, Jamie Canon • 530-265-8326 • tra.jamiej@sbcglobal.net

NEW MEMBER RAFFLE WINNERS



A New Member Orientation was held after the February board meeting. New members were provided raffles tickets for a random prize drawing.

The lucky winners were (from left) Tim McCulloch, awards presenter Lea Zivic, Lyn Purdy and Chris Dyer. Congratulations & welcome!



Contributed by Cathy Chase

Minutes of the GCTC Board Meetings and the current 2020 GCTC Events Calendar can be accessed on the GCTC Website www.GoldCountryTrailsCouncil.org



Penn Valley Rodeo Parade!

IT'S ALMOST PARADE TIME!

The Penn Valley Rodeo Parade is scheduled for Saturday, May 16th this year. Please join us for a great time riding to show support of, and promote, GCTC.

Let me know if you're interested or have any questions: linda@StarshineRanch.org. I'll be sending out more information as we get closer to the date.

~ Linda Lanzoni



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If **ALL** our members set up their Amazon Smile account, GCTC would benefit **THOUSANDS** of dollars every year!

IS YOUR TRAILER READY TO ROLL?

Maybe you were able to head out to the trails during our warm February, or maybe your trailer has been sitting all winter – or for a few years. Either way, you need to make sure it's safe for you to tow, your horses (and his friends) to travel in, and for others who share the road.

- If you have mats, pull them up and check for rust and corrosion, and weak spots in the flooring. (It's recommended you pull the mats and rinse down the flooring after every use.)
- Check the undercarriage for rust and corrosion as well.
- Check your tires for wear, replace if needed (no one wants a blowout!).
- Check tire pressure, including your spare tire.
- Check your electric brakes, and brake controller.
- Check all your lights: turn signals, brake and marker lights.
- Check the tightness of your wheel lugs.
- Lubricate your hitch ball and all hinges periodically.
- Check for wasps in any opening inside and out!



Take it to your favorite trailer repair person if you have any concerns.

BE SAFE, HAVE FUN!

GCTC members, on the following page you will find the Tahoe National Forest (TNF)
“LEAVE ONLY HOOV PRINTS” half sheets.

Please print out a couple dozen of these, cut them in half, and have them in your vehicle
so you can leave one behind on rigs in the areas we maintain.

It thanks those who are picking up after their horses, and reminds those who haven't.

This REALLY helps! Many folks don't even realize they are leaving trail heads in an unpleasant state,
and helps us to maintain a good relationship with non-riders.

Thank you!



Leave only HOOF PRINTS

A Tahoe National Forest program where horses leave only great impressions.

- To those who have already picked up after your horses, THANK YOU!
- Don't spread manure to the adjoining bushes. Take it with you.
- Please pick up all manure around your trailer. Take it with you.

LEAVE ONLY HOOF PRINTS

....in the staging, parking and picnic areas.



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