

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

Dear GCTC membership,

As you can see by the following summary of the February GCTC Board meeting, despite the pandemic we are still moving forward with our mission. To meet this mission, we need GCTC members to step up and make it happen. This is especially important as we look forward to COVID numbers decreasing and we are able to return to more activities and events. Work parties, working groups, and special events, such as the Poker Ride cannot happen without you, our members, stepping up to contribute to their success – and the success of GCTC.

For instance, currently these positions need you: Poker Ride manager and helpers, Apparel Manager to sell GCTC clothing at events and meetings, and Volunteer Hours Recorder to tally GCTC volunteer hours for the USFS. If you are interested, please let me know.

Our February Board of Directors Meeting was held virtually via conference call. All officers and board members were in attendance, as were Jeff Foltz and Hetty Dutra. Treasurer Cathy Scott reported the club finances are in great shape, as expenses have been lower than usual due to COVID restrictions. We discussed allotting up to \$4000 to purchase an equipment trailer for the club to make workdays easier by having all the tools in one place.

We discussed upcoming events and COVID restrictions. While we cannot make definite plans yet, we are moving forward counting on holding the Poker Ride

this year. This and other events will be determined, though, based on how COVID case numbers decrease.

An interesting update was given on the Pines to Mines trail. While there are still hold-ups on construction, the good news is that Nevada County has given it official status, authorizing funding to contribute to environmental reports.

Jeff Foltz provided an important update on the expansion plan for Hidden Falls. The final meeting will be March 8th, in which the Placer County Board of Supervisors will hold a special meeting, now that the plan has been passed by the Parks and the Planning Commissions. The Board of Supervisors will vote on final approval. Please see Jaede's email on the topic today (2-11-21) for more information. It is important that as many as possible attend the meeting to show support for the project. I will be there representing GCTC.

Hetty Dutra is working on forming a working group with the goal of paving Waldo Road to access the Spenceville Wildlife area for riding. There was also discussion about the possibility of developing a horse camp area at Spenceville.

As always, continue to stay safe and well, and please consider how you wish to contribute to the success of GCTC.

~ **Bernie Molloy, President**
530-802-4089
imarangemaster@gmail.com





Julie, Andrew, & Myles Barhydt
and Daphne Green
Sarah Dykman
Linda & Daniel Ketcham
Ian Killmer
Sheryl Lynde
Mary Mason
Olivia McGinty
Holly Reagon
Shane Shelton & Robert
Waltman
Lizette Taylor/Sammie's Friends



If you want to be up-to-date on the latest GCTC happenings...



...be sure to check your email!

<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: OPEN
Historian: OPEN
Membership: Cathy Chase (530) 205-0900
chasehc@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Pamela Warmack
(510) 697-6625 cows2horses@gmail.com
Parades: Linda Lanzoni
Poker Ride Fundraiser: Susan Donnelly
Program Director: Helen Crawford
Publicity: Teresa Dietrich
Refreshment Manager: Phyllis Fanning
Skillman Water Manager: Barry Vaccaro
Skillman Campground: Elicia Kamberg
Sunshine: Andrea Duncan
sendmailtoandi@gmail.com (510) 295-7600
Tool Cache Manager: Suzanne & Barry Vaccaro
Trail Rides: Jamie Canon

**Gold Country Trails
Council Officers**

President: Bernie Molloy 530-802-4089
imarangemaster@gmail.com
V.P.: Jamie Canon 530-265-8326
tra.jamiej@sbcglobal.net
Secretary: Andi Duncan ((510) 295-7600
sendmailtoandi@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: Greg Sherrs
sherrs@infostations.com
Board Member: Karen Hayden 530-575-5808
karenhayden@att.net

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

	MARCH APRIL 2021		

MARCH

9 Tue. General Meeting 7pm
Tentative, COVID restrictions permitting
 13 Sat. Spenceville Area Ride
Tentative, COVID restrictions permitting
 20 Sat. Spenceville Ride (rain date)
Tentative, COVID restrictions permitting

APRIL

10 Sat. Day Ride (Location TBD)
Tentative, COVID restrictions permitting
 13 Tue. Board meeting 7pm
 New Member Social
Tentative, COVID restrictions permitting
 17 Sat. Trail Work Day - Lone Grave
Small Groups, distanced
 25 or 26 Trail Work Day - Lone Grave (rain date)
Small Groups, distanced

PLEASE NOTE: Dates & times may change. Changes and an updated calendar is always available on the website: www.GoldCountryTrailsCouncil.org
 Click on the "Calendar and Events" tab. Also check your email for the latest updates.

Welcome to our newest member advertisers!

- ReBalance Expert
- Sheryl Lynde Clinics

KEEPING OUR TRAILS CLEAR

Before the snows set in, Barry and Suzanne Vaccaro removed and cleared a downed tree that was blocking the Dascombe trail just below the old Highway 20 staging area near the start of the Harmony trail. Thank you!

(Photo courtesy of Suzanne Vaccaro.)





GET READY TO RIDE! AT THE SPENCEVILLE WILDLIFE AREA



The first club ride of the season is coming up. If all goes well, the ride at Spenceville Wildlife Area is scheduled for Saturday, March 13 (weather and Covid restrictions permitting). Watch your email for more detailed information to come.



If the weather doesn't cooperate on the 13th, a rain date is scheduled for the following weekend, March 20th (again, weather and Covid restrictions permitting).



Members are Invited to Advertise their Business in the GCTC Newsletter & Phonebook

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



EV **CURBSIDE PICKUP AVAILABLE!**
EVR store hours: M - F 8:30am - 6pm, Sat. 8:30am- 5pm, Sun. 10am - 3pm
205 Nevada Street, Auburn, CA 95603

**Don't want to come in the store to do your shopping?
Give us a call @ 530-823-1482
and we will do the shopping for you!
When you are ready to pick it up, call us and
we'll deliver the items to your car.**

WWW.ECHORANCH.COM



**EVR IS AN 'ESSENTIAL' BUSINESS AND
WE WILL REMAIN OPEN TO FEED YOUR ANIMALS!!**

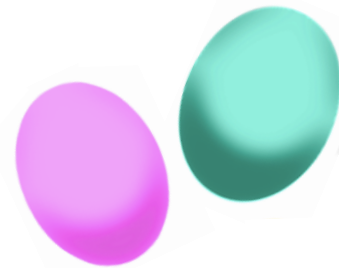


**Coast to Coast Health
Insurance Solutions, LLC**
C2C

Catherine M. Pegeron
CA License #0M78610
cpegeron@c2healthinsurance.com

888-814-9977 ext 101
916-352-3442 direct
855-329-4472 fax

Serving seniors' health insurance needs since 2011



What Shedding Can Tell You About Your Horse's Health

Hair loss can signal more than just the arrival of spring.

EQUUS UPDATED: MAY 5, 2020 ORIGINAL: MAY 7, 2014

Forget blooming flowers and robins. One of the surest signs of spring around a barn is horsehair—and lots of it. By now your horses are probably actively shedding, leaving a layer of hair in the aisle, on your clothes and inside your truck. Shedding is more than just a nuisance, though. It's a complex physiological process that tells you a lot about your horse's health.

Shedding is not triggered by temperature. It's linked to photoperiods: As the hours of daylight increase, a horse's winter coat begins to loosen and shed. This process started way back in late December, but you usually won't see the obvious, hairy results until now.

Some horses hang on to their coats longer than others, but an individual's shedding "schedule" will typically be consistent from year to year. Along the same lines, some horses shed out in a particular pattern each year, losing hair from their necks first, for instance, then along their flanks. This can lead to a very unsightly "patchy" period but isn't cause for concern.

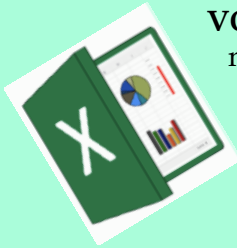
It is worrisome, however, if a horse isn't shedding out as he usually would. If your normally punctual shedder is holding on to his coat longer than usual this year, it could be a sign of Cushing's disease, particularly if he is older. Horses with Cushing's also tend to shed the long "cat hairs" under their bellies and chins last, so the sudden appearance of that pattern is also cause for concern.

Horses with Cushing's disease are more likely to develop laminitis, so let your veterinarian know right away if your horse isn't shedding normally. The sooner you have a diagnosis and can begin treatment, the better.



“I wanna do that!”

Looking for an opportunity to contribute to GCTC’s success? Here are two opportunities that only require a few hours a month!



VOLUNTEER HOURS RECORDER: Susan Donnelly spends ONLY “3 hours a month, tops,” keeping track of GCTC member volunteer hours, which she then reports to the US Forest Service.

She would be happy to talk with you. You can reach Susan at 530-906-3093 or susanfdonnelly@gmail.com.

APPAREL MANAGER: Lea Zivic has been selling our stylish GCTC apparel and other items for several years and is ready allow someone new to share the goods. It ONLY takes a few hours each month to make items available.

Lea would be happy to share with you all you need to know to easily take over as Apparel Manager. You may reach her at (530) 748-9960.





Voted “Nevada County’s Best”
16 times in both
Tires & Auto Repair



ASE Certified Technicians
AAA Approved Auto Repair

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR

Nevada City 531 Searls Ave 265-4642	Colfax 1774 S. Canyon Wy 346-8782	Penn Valley 17317 Penn Valley Dr 432-9144	Grass Valley 1571 East Main St 477-1414
--	--	--	--



For only \$65 a year, you will have no out-of-pocket expenses for air medical transport provided by one of AMCN’s 320 bases in 38 US states, including local providers CALSTAR & REACH. Protect your family & finances, purchase a membership today. Even with medical insurance, Medicare or VA benefits you may have have out of pocket expenses. Membership covers entire household for a year from enrollment. AMCN now manages Care Flight’s membership program as well. Call for details.

Sonja Conklin, Membership Manager, 530-648-6455
www.AMCNRep.com/Sonja-Conklin
 Enter Discount Code 11109-CA-BUS & Track Code 13818



Residential • Horse & Ranch Properties
Serving Nevada County and surrounding communities




Sue Bartow
REALTOR®
CABRE: 02037097
530-205-3338
559-972-2713
sue@balloucompany.com
www.balloucompany.com

REAL ESTATE SERVICES



Alexis Brasier
Trail Horse Trainer, Western Riding Instructor,
Facility Manager



Auburn, California
530.401.6900
www.abequestrianca.com
abequestrian.ca@gmail.com



Mary Long
RANCH SITTING
 NEVADA COUNTY
775-771-0170
 animalhouse.mary@sbcglobal.net



Duke's TRAILER WORKS


(530) 277-2028
 Repairs Restoration Mobile



Blanket Repairs R Us
 "We Wash & Repair Horse Blankets"
Vonnie Bays
 Owner / Manager
 697 Havenwood Drive
 Lincoln, Ca 95648
 (916) 645-9000
 lvbays@wavecable.com
 WEB Site: Google-Blanket Repairs R Us



The Sharper Edge
 Clipper Blade Sharpening Service
 Chris and Elaine Rhodes
 530/273-0092 Hm.
 530/575-7603 Cell




LEISURE EQUESTRIAN SERVICES

Cindi D. Leisure
 British Horse Society Instructor
 Centered Riding Instructor Level II
 www.leisureequestrian.com
 P.O. BOX 1567 • PENN VALLEY, CA 95946 • (925) 755-3311

Harmony In Motion

 Helen Harvey
 Feldenkrais Practitioner
 Centered Riding Instructor
 (530) 265-4086 cell (408) 858-7852
 www.heartworks.bz/harmony



Laura Berman
Homes-Ranches-Land
 Broker Associate BRE#934015
 226 Mill Street
 Grass Valley, Ca
 530-913-8789
 Laura@gvRealEstate.com
 www.gvRealEstate.com
 United Country - California Properties #1919565



ALL ABOUT WELLS
Evelyn Soltero, MS
 Geoscientist
530-210-9508
invitewatertostay.com
residentialwells@gmail.com





GCTC TRAIL PATROL VOLUNTEERS

Report #1



There are a handful of Gold Country Trails Council Members who have volunteered to be ambassadors on the trails in the Tahoe National Forest. The riders report the hours they spend monitoring the trails and often give a short report on any trail conditions that may need attention, such as downed trees or interactions with other trail users. Patrol Volunteers are welcome provide as much information as they like, or is needed. As ambassadors, they interact with other trail users and can assist by providing directions or general information about an area, if needed, or just provide a friendly, "Hello!"

When the Trail Patrol volunteers report their hours spent on the trails, GCTC gains credibility as a volunteer partner with the Tahoe National Forest. That in turn aids GCTC in having a voice in planning for trails, campground maintenance, and changes or improvements the club would like to see happen. (NOTE: Current Trail Patrol volunteers, your time counts, so report those hours.)



Become a Member of GCTC's Trail Patrol and Get a Cool Vest to Wear

GCTC does need more Trail Patrol Volunteers. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Helen Harvey helentharvey@icloud.com

It is a great way to meet up with other GCTC members and get to know new trails.

Here are a few samples of previous trail patrol reports. (Watch for Trail Patrol Report 2nd Installment in the next newsletter)

Laura Duncan

When: Wednesday, 28 October 2020

5 hours



Report:

Arrived at GCTC trailhead at 10. Parking lot was empty, however upon return there were 2 other rigs. We rode out on Dascombe trail, then Meyer and Pfeiffer trails. There were 2 dog walkers and 1 bicyclist. All friendly encounters. The parking area was clean. Thanks to all who picked up the garbage.

(Continued on next page)

Jamie Canon

When: Friday, 23 October 2020
10 hours, 19.1 miles



Description:

3 GCTC members and I rode from Black's Cabin below Loney Meadows, out across Lindsey Creek to the base of Lindsey Lake Dam on up to Carr and Feely Lakes continuing on the Round Lakes Trail to Glacier Lake trail. Our goal, Glacier Lake, where we lunched. We then rode back on the Sand Ridge Trail. We were able to water the horses in one of the lakes in the "Five Lakes Basin" then connected to the Grouse Ridge Trail. Not much water left in Shotgun Lake this time of year. We went up the switchback connector trail to the Lindsey Lake trail and watered the horses again at Lower Rock Lake. The trail name somewhere in there turns to "Bull Pen Lake Trail" along Texas Creek. We then rode back to the trailers at Blacks Cabin. There were a few campers in the campground at Loney Meadows. Good ride. All of the trails were in good condition. We saw a few hikers, all friendly encounters. Beautiful weather.

Suzanne Vaccaro

When: Friday, 30 October 2020
8 hours



Description:

I patrolled with Jamie Canon & Laura Duncan from the PCT trail at Boreal south toward old Hwy. 40. 4-5 trees were down. We managed to get around all of them. Met up with several hikers, all very polite. Part of the narrow trail on the dirt switch backs is eroding. Another beautiful Fall ride.

Linda Lanzoni

When: Sunday, January 17th, 2021
4.5 hours



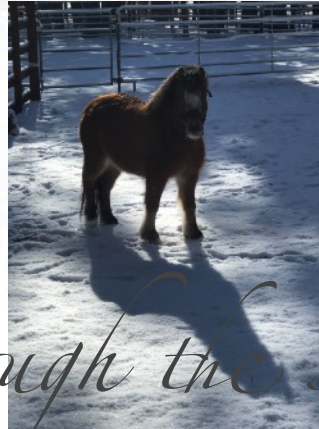
Description:

Location: Lone Grave. Beautiful day! Rode with 2 other GCTC members and all three horses were so compatible it made the normal ride special. Rode out on the Berm trail to the Ridge trail up the trail along Madrone Springs Rd, through the Conservation Camp and onto the Dascombe trail where we met a few bicyclists who were very cordial and considerate. Finished the ride by going across Hwy. 20 and coming back to the Conservation Road and then into the trail head.

Blazer & Bailey



Peanut



Dashing through the snow

Stacey Estrada at Pine Rock Ranch & Horse Camp in Calpine shared these photos of her horses in the snow.

An ANNIVERSARY to REMEMBER

By Cherryl Holbrook

It was Jim’s and my 47th wedding anniversary. We knew we couldn’t go out to dinner because of Covid, so we decided to pick up salads from Chipotle for lunch, take them over to Cool, and ride the Olmsted Loop. Jim and I are both on the Auburn State Parks Mounted Patrol, so we figured we would do a patrol ride to mark the day.

We had our lunch, saddled up our horses, and headed out on the trails. It was a beautiful, sunny day. For those familiar with the Olmsted loop, you know how many trails there are out in that area. It is bordered by Highway 49 on one side, the Auburn Canyon on the other, Pilot Hill on one end, and Cool on the other. It is filled with lots of obstacles: brush, downed trees, barbed wire, old fencing, etc.

Jim and I were having a great ride and were about 4 miles from the trailer, when Jim’s horse spooked. Unfortunately, Jim didn’t realize his



saddle cinch was loose. His saddle slid off to the side, and Jim went off. We both ride with an air vest, so Jim’s vest immediately inflated. The noise of the air vest inflating and the commotion of it all sent my horse into a frenzy.



He whorled around and I went off too. Both horses took off in the direction of Pilot Hill. Jim and I both looked like Pillsbury Doughboys, but we were very thankful neither of us were hurt—thanks to those vests.

It was about 3 o’clock in the afternoon at the time of our unplanned dismounts. We headed in the direction the horses had gone, expecting to see them just around the corner, grazing in a field. We looked for an hour and did not find them. Jim and I decided we needed to head back to the staging area, otherwise, we would be out there in the dark.

By the time we got back to our trailer, we had not seen the horses, and they were not at the trailer. We also realized that both of our



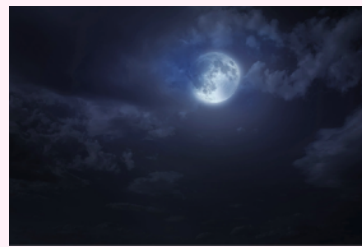
phones and the keys to our truck were in our saddlebags on the horses. We walked over to the fire station in Cool, called our

neighbors and asked if they could bring our spare keys over to Cool (an hour’s drive for them). Thank goodness for good friends.

We decided one of us would stay with the truck and trailer while the other would go back to Grass Valley with our neighbor, pick up our motorhome and return. The plan was to stay the night in the motorhome, and then head out first thing in the morning to look for the horses. Then, when Jim got home, he would email all of our friends to see who was available to help with the search. There was so much to think about, that we didn’t even want to entertain the idea that either horse could be severely injured. We really worried about the reins getting over their heads (since they were not split reins).

We stayed in the firehouse until 7:30, then headed towards our rig. It was pitch dark and we couldn’t see a thing. As we walked down past the water trough, the moon began to rise. There was a very slight gleam of light shining in the dark. I looked up, and probably 50

feet ahead of me, was the outline of a horse’s head. I thought I was seeing a mirage.



I asked Jim, “Is that a horse over there?” We walked slowly over to the mirage and, sure enough, standing there were both our horses, their

reins still over their necks, Jim’s saddle was pitched off to one side but held in place by his crupper and breast collar. We retrieved our phones from the saddlebags, turned on the flashlights, and examined our horses looking for any injuries, and found not a scratch on either of them. We hugged our horses, and figured it was a miracle that they found had their way back, in the dark, through all the obstacles without a scratch.

This anniversary is one we will never forget. So much could have gone so wrong. Lessons learned: never put your phone or your keys on the horse—keep them on your person; put an ID tag on your horse’s bridle and/or saddle; consider purchasing an air vest for your protection; and never underestimate the intelligence of your horse!



Air vest deployed



Cell phone holder



Cherryl & Jim, safe and sound AND grateful!



*May you be filled with the joy and wonder
that is Spring as you explore, create, preserve
and celebrate our beautiful trails.*