

Trail Times



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.



GCTC President's Message

Hello Everyone,

We have many fun events planned for this year, and the first one is coming up on Saturday, March 8th, when our first day ride is scheduled at Spenceville. After the rains we've had recently, it should be beautiful there. We'll take a leisurely ride, leaving at 10:00 from the trailhead at Dry Creek, and we'll return there for lunch. After lunch, those who'd like to ride a bit more can explore the trails across the road from the trailhead. If it rains on the 8th, we'll ride on the 15th instead. If you'd like to join us, please let our Spenceville Trail Boss, Lori Moniz, know.

Our March meeting at the Grange is scheduled for Tuesday, the 11th and will feature equine nutritionist Dr. Clair Thunes, Ph.D. I heard her speak at Horse Expo last year and really enjoyed her presentation. Don't miss it, and bring any questions you may have about your horse's feeding program.

We have other fun occasions planned for the year ahead. Please check the 2014 activities calendar on our website or check out the most recent edition of our newsletter, and save the dates.

As you know, GCTC has a long history of working actively to develop, maintain and preserve public access to local trails. During this long history, many people worked tirelessly in initiating our mission and fulfilling it. These people may not be familiar names to you, and you may not have seen them at our meetings. Nevertheless, they played vital roles in providing and protecting the trails we enjoy today.

I was recently reminded of this when I read an old magazine article about one of our former members, Ruth Dascombe. If you ride at Lone Grave, you've probably ridden on the Dascombe trail. Ruth is now deceased, but this great-granddaughter of the famous Nez Pierce Chief Joseph lived every moment to the fullest while she had the chance. Apparently she was totally fearless, and her exploits on horseback are legendary, e.g., riding a horse into a crowded San Francisco bar on a dare during a parade to celebrate the opening of the Bay Bridge.

see MESSAGE Page 3



Past President, Helen Harvey presents 2013 GCTC Top Hand to Sue Brusin

Top Hand Award

2013 was the inaugural year for launching Gold Country Trails Council Top Hand Award. The GCTC board created the award to recognize an outstanding member who actively promoted and practiced the organizations' mission.

Notice was sent out to the membership requesting nominations for this award. An appointed committee comprised of members Jaede Miloslavich, Allan Appel and Laura Duncan tallied the votes, which were then submitted to the GCTC board for their approval. At the November meeting, Sue was recognized for her long-term dedication and support of GCTC.

Some of the comments included with the submitted nominations make it clear why Sue was the top vote getter for the award:

"Sue is deserving of this award because of her hard work on the trails and advising the club about what work needs to be done. She gives the club good direction. Sue also is the force behind Willie that keeps him going and working on GCTC as well!

"Sue has been an active member of GCTC from the inception. She has participated on the board and is always involved in the workdays and politics of

see AWARD Page 4

GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at 7:00 P.M.
GOLDEN EMPIRE GRANGE HALL
off LA BARR MEADOWS ROAD

Speakers: Clair Thunes, PhD. Clair is an independent equine nutritionist who will speak to us on equine nutrition and how best to feed your horse.

Laura Berman

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**GCTC Communications and Announcements**

Many thanks goes out to GCTC's outstanding communications expert Jaede Miloslavich whose dedication and hard work keeps everyone informed of upcoming GCTC events as well as informational tidbits and questions pertinent to GCTC members. Remember that the email communications always start with [GCTC] in the subject line. All GCTC events, such as meetings, rides and work days, as well as information regarding membership or other "official" information is marked with ***[GCTC]*** in the subject line. The recipient can then quickly decide which emails are important to them or not. If for any reason a GCTC member chooses not to receive GCTC emails they can "opt out" by making note on the membership form or by contacting Jaede at jaede@sbbmail.com.

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Committee Chairs

Camp Cook & Coordinator:

Merrill Kagan-Weston

Email Notifications: Jaede Miloslavich
530 346-9933 jaede@sbbmail.com

Forest Service Liaison: Willie Brusin

Historian: Sharon Silver

Hospitality: Laura Duncan, Maryann Colley and
Krista Ericson

Little Lasier Meadow: Worth & Mary Lundin
and Mary Johnson

Membership: Mary Johnson 530-477-8501
mjshasta@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Lynn Mangel 530-432-6979

quailhollowpv@me.com

Phone Tree: Lynne Sullivan

Poker Ride Fundraiser: Linda Lanzoni

530-273-6346 linda@mtnequestrian.com

Program Director: Melissa Ribley

Publicity: Open

Skillman: Robert & Melissa Ribley

Tool Storage and Maintenance: Willie Brusin

Trail Rides: open

Web Master: Pat Gibbs and Gigi Lawton

United Trails Work Day: Irv Mazur

Gold Country Trails**Council Officers**

President: Karen Schwartz 470-8790

karen-schwartz@prodigy.net

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Secretary: Karen Wyeth 346-6081

kawyeth@earthlink.net

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kathysouthgate@msn.com

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harmony@heartworks.bz

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Board Member: Don Soto 275-0536

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Board Member: Rafe Little 217-3725

horsedynamics@gmail.com

GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL 2014 CALENDAR

Date	Event	Date	Event
MARCH			
March 8	Spenceville Day Ride Trail Boss: TBA	August 6-10	Nevada County Fair (non-GCTC event)
March 11	General Meeting - 7 p.m. (Golden Empire Grange Hall, GV)	August 9	Tevis (Western States Endurance Ride (non-GCTC event)
March 15	Spenceville Day Ride (rain date)	August 12	Board Meeting - 7 p.m. Memorial Park Annex Bldg., GV
APRIL			
April 8	Board Meeting - 7 p.m. Memorial Park Annex Bldg., GV	August 14-17	Loney Meadow Camp/Work/Ride Coordinator: Teri Personeni
April 27	Work Day - Lone Grave Coordinator: Harry Wyeth	August TBA	Robinson Flat Camp/Ride Coordinator: TBA
April 30	Work Day - Lone Grave (rain date)	SEPTEMBER	
MAY			
May 4	Cronan Ranch Day Ride Trail Boss: Carol Scurria	September 9	General Meeting - 7 p.m. Golden Empire Grange Hall, GV
May 13	General Meeting - 7 p.m. Golden Empire Grange Hall, GV	September 13	Work Day - Bowman/Langs Crossing Coordinator: TBA
TBD	United Trails Day/Work Day Coordinator: Irv Mazur	Sept. 18-21	Draft Horse Classic Fair (non GCTC event)
May 21	Work Day - Skillman Coordinator: Melissa & Robert Ribley	OCTOBER	
JUNE			
June 7	GCTC Annual Poker Ridge Fundraiser Coordinator: Linda Lanzoni	October 4	Work Day TBA Coordinator: TBA
June 10	Board Meeting - 7 p.m. Memorial Park Annex Bldg., GV	October 14	Board Meeting - 7 p.m. Memorial Park Annex Blvd., GV
June 13-15	Western States Horse Expo, Sacramento (non GCTC event)	October 18	Lone Grave Ride/BBQ Coordinator: TBA
June 20-22	Wild West Endurance Ride non GCTC event)	October 25	Lone Grave Ride/BBQ (rain date)
June 27-29	Little Lasier Meadow Camp/Work/Ride Coordinator: Mary Johnson	NOVEMBER	
JULY			
July 8	General Mtg./Ice Cream Soc. - 7 p.m. Golden Empire Grange Hall, GV	November 11	Gen. Mtg./Thanksgiving Feast - 7 p.m. Golden Empire Grange Hall, GV
July 19	Royal Gorge Day Ride Trail Boss: Mary Johnson	DECEMBER	
July 26	Work Day - Bowman/Langs Crossing Trail Boss: TBA	December 9	Board Meeting - 7 p.m. Memorial Park Annex Blvd., GV



MESSAGE

She liked to ride two horses at once, Roman style, on Ocean Beach. Her adventurous attitude and can-do spirit can be an inspiration to us all.

So think of Ruth Dascombe and promise yourself to try something new this year. Attend one of our day rides or horse camping weekends. Volunteer to help out at a trail workday or join a GCTC committee. Having fun together is one of the best ways to get to know other GCTC members and to continue the GCTC tradition of trail adventures and fun.

And who knows, one day you, like Ruth Dascombe, may find yourself riding in a parade . . .

Karen Schwartz, President

If you know of a GCTC member that needs a little sunshine in their life, contact GCTC's Sunshine Person Cheri Crain at 916-996-8854 or cwcrain01@gmail.com with the information



Club Members Have Much To Offer

When Worth and I needed a realtor to help us sell our home and buy another one, we decided that looking "close to home" was the best way to find one. GCTC has many professional people in their ranks and using their services seemed like the best way to go. We chose Laura Berman and we were not disappointed. Her knowledge of the area, of horse properties, of what was appropriate for our needs was right on. She actively marketed our home and it was sold quickly. The paperwork was so organized it was easy. We highly recommend Laura Berman if you need a realtor.

We will certainly remember to "shop locally" if we need a professional in the future. So remember, club members, not only does your membership and participation in Gold Country Trails Council provide trails to enjoy, it provides a source of really good people to know.

Submitted by, Mary Ludin

AWARD

this group. There is seldom an activity where Sue is not present. She is the leader and organizer of the annual Fall BBQ/Ride and is one of a team who

chooses and marks the trail for the Poker Ride. In addition, Sue spends many hours of her own time riding the trails to check conditions and clear debris and obstructions if needed."

"Sue is an inspiration for the rest of us to get out there and just do it."

A heartfelt thank you to Sue for helping make GCTC the best trails group in Nevada County.

Submitted by, Laura Duncan

Howdy and Welcome to our newest members!!



Armando & Patti Aguirre
Mary Beyer
Michelle Buys
Maria Kosielowsky
Suzy McMinn
Judy Suter
Sherry Warren



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Trial Times is the official newsletter of the Gold Country Trail Council. It is an independent publication containing news and information consistent with the mission of GCTC and of interest to its members. It is published every other month (Jan-Feb, Mar-Apr, May-Jun, Jul-Aug, Sept-Oct, Nov-Dec).

Editor - Lynn Mangel - (530)432-6979 (please leave message) - quailhollowpv@me.com

Member submissions are encouraged and may be made by email or snail mail. Submissions may be edited to accommodate the space available.

Deadline:

All submissions are due on or before the last day of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, and Dec. Our objective is to provide members with a copy of the GCTC Newsletter, containing BOD meeting minutes, a week prior to General Membership meetings.

Horse Trailer Maintenance

Howdy Folks,

For those of you whom own a horse trailer and pulling vehicle it is important to remind ourselves that they are our lifelines when hauling. Time passes and regular maintenance is pushed aside because of our busy schedules.

Maintaining a horse trailer keeps the horses, passengers and drivers safe. The process resembles auto maintenance. Horse trailers sustain damage and wear from the elements, just like cars. Regular maintenance can postpone damage, maintain value of the trailer and reduces cost of repairs. The following is a service maintenance check list that we recommend be done annually.

- Remove and inspect all wheels and hubs or brake drums.
- Check brake master cylinder (hydraulic) or actuator (electric)
- Check brake linings, brake drums, and armature faces for excessive wear or scoring.
- Inspect suspension for wear.
- Check your trailer frame for rust. Remove any rust from braking surface and armature surface of drums.
- Check tightness of hanger bolt, shackle bolt, and U-bolt nuts per recommended torque values.
- Lubricate all brake moving parts, using a high temperature brake lubricant.
- Inspect oil or grease seals for wear or nicks. Replace if necessary.
- Inspect and grease wheel bearings.
- Inspect all moving parts and lubricate
- Check all trailer tires and spare for dry rot, air pressure, wear and damage.
- Inspect lights and wiring inspected
- Service door latches and closures
- Inspect your floor
- Inspect trailer for stress cracks.
- Inspect your hitch and hitch fittings
- Lube your hitch ball.
- Ensure that all tools needed to change tires are on board.
- Tires should be replaced every 4 to 6 years. Only use tires specifically designed for trailers.
- Carry a spare wheel bearing in your trailer in case one goes bad.

We are here to help assist you in any of your trailer or vehicle needs.

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Submitted by, Mark Heuser

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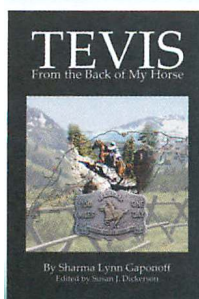
The Gold Country Trail Council would like to recognize the following individuals for their generous donations.

Armando & Patti Aguirre
Ann Deden
Suzanne Ferrogiaro
Brent & Helen McDermott
Beverly Milke-Hillar and Jim Hillar
Dave and Linda Palley
Penny & Jerry Scribner
Sherry Warren

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.

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By Sharma Lynn Gaponoff



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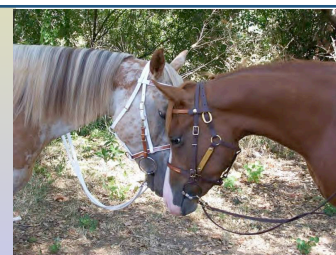
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CALSTAR Renewal

My renewal to CALSTAR falls in April. So, I thought that I would remind you all that as a member of GCTC, you are eligible for membership with CALSTAR for the group membership rate of \$35.00 a year. CALSTAR is a nonprofit air ambulance provider serving Northern & Central California. Bases are located geographically to serve all communities-urban and rural. CALSTAR works cooperatively with medical facilities throughout the service area to transport patients to the most appropriate facility for their condition.

If you need air ambulance transport as a result of an accident, equine or other, your cost of transport is covered. Some health insurance plans include the coverage of air ambulance transport, but some do not. \$35.00 per year for you and your family is very affordable. You can join on line or call CALSTAR. To learn more go to www.calstar.org or call 1-888-207-5433. Our group name is Gold Country Trails Council.



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It has been suggested that we include a Helpful Hints Section in our newsletter. So, if any of you out there have helpful hints or suggestions you would like to share with the membership, please submit them to me for future newsletters.

Lynn Mangel, Editor, quailhollowpv@me.com



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HELPFUL HINTS

I just ordered Chondro Protect from Farm Vet and the sales person recommended that I wipe the top of the vials with an alcohol soaked swab before each use (puncturing with needle). That really makes sense, especially when I have a half vial that will sit in the refrig for a month until the next injection. Just an extra precaution to prevent contamination!

Be clean!

Submitted by, Marilyn Russell

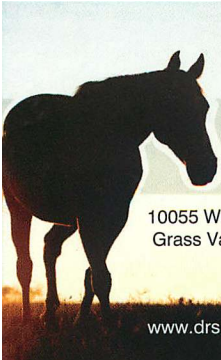
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Check out the new GCTC T-Shirts

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

Be sure to pick up the GCTC trailer decal for just \$1.00.

**Palomino Morgan Mare,
Experienced Trial Horse**

15.0 hands, Palomino, 2006 registered Morgan mare. Terob My Fair Lady, aka Lil, (Nashboro Gallant Lad x Marin Madonna) is coming off a year and a half maternity leave and well on her way 'back'. She is an amazing horse camping and trail and horse. She has been trail ridden hundreds of miles in WY, NE, UT, NV and many parts of CA, riding over difficult and varied terrain. She crosses water, logs and rocky trails. She has herded cattle in the high country and has no problem getting off the trail to do a job. Before being bred, she was exploring the world of jumping and just loves it; fallen trees, barrels or standard jumps, she tucks her legs and goes where you point her. I have recently gotten interested in Cowboy Dressage, so Lil is getting the benefit of that, too.
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THANKS!!

I would like to thank those members that choose to advertise in the GCTC Newsletter. This is a great way to support the Gold Country Trail Council and the wonderful work that they do.

I would also like to thank those members who continue to send in articles/pictures on your horsey adventures.

If you have any suggestions/ideas of additional information you might want to see in the newsletter please forward them to me.

So keep up the good work and remember to take along your camera for the upcoming activities. Snap a few shots and submit a brief article on your adventures. Submission deadline for the May-June Newsletter will be Wednesday, April 30. Articles/pictures should be sent to Lynn Mangel, Editor (quailhollowpv@me.com).

GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL
BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2014, 3 PM
Memorial Park Annex
415 Central Ave., Grass Valley

Attending: Karen Schwartz, Karen Wyeth, Kathy Southgate, Vicki Testa, Mary Johnson, Willie Brusin, Sue Brusin, Melissa Ribley

Absent: Helen Harvey, Rafe Little, Don Soto

Call to Order: 3:10 pm

Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting: Minutes of the General Meeting of Jan. 14, 2014 were approved.

Approval of the Treasurer's Report: As of Jan. 31, 2014, the bank balance was \$21,743.60. \$2,484.30 was received during January. The 990 forms were filed, but we still need to file for 2008, 09 & 10. We shouldn't need to file a tax return if our income is under \$50,000. Helen Harvey is spearheading the purchase of the brusher. Kathy doesn't know if it's bought yet. Treasurer's Report was approved.

Kathy also reported that the Meadow Vista Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) at their meeting of Feb. 5 approved the additional parking for Hidden Falls Park. The parking will be at the heliport uphill from the paved parking. This will help to separate horses and people at the beginning of the trail system. GCTC was mentioned as being helpful. They have \$137,000; \$400,000 is needed.

Forest Service Report:

- 1) Joe Chavez requested a letter of support for an OHV grant that would receive green sticker fund money for enforcement on multi-use trails, which should be submitted before the OHV grant application open house on 2/13/14.
- 2) It may be possible to combine the fuels reduction project, the Cable Trail, and the relocation of a short segment of the Dascombe Trail from underneath the power lines in one environmental review. If the Dascombe Trail stays under the power line, we will have to maintain the road. Vicki asked what is happening on Madrone Springs Rd. Willie thought this might be part of the fire safety project setting out marking ribbons. For the Cable Trail, GCTC marked the trail at 8%, but the Forest Service wants BONC to mark it at 5% grade. The location is essentially the same.
- 3) The draft Decision Memo on the Pioneer Trail reroute will be written this month. Both Joe and Willie will have to be re-certified to work with the Washington Crew before work can start. Joe will arrange this. There will be a 30-day public comment period after the Decision Memo is final. GCTC should contribute \$1,000 to \$1,500 for the Pioneer relocation.
- 4) Sue worked with Jet Lowe to put the Lone Grave and Skillman area non-motorized trails into the required GIS format. All of these trails were left off of the official 2013 TNF map, since they weren't in the correct format. The finalized map for Lone Grave needs to be finished before the Keene Grant map is made. The Keene Grant is only for a large sign at the store on Rt. 20.
- 5) Melissa asked Heather Newell if the Forest Service would have the same manager for Skillman Campground. The Forest Service may manage it, or California Management is negotiating for a contract.
- 6) Parking in the Bowman Rd. area may be at Ziebright Mine Rd., if we work with the Bear Yuba Land Trust.

Old Business:

- 1) Future board meeting location - We have not heard from Rafe about location possibilities. The next board meeting will be April 8, 6 pm to 8 pm. We will continue to meet at the present location, but we need to be sure the heat is turned on.
- 2) Membership - Lynne Sullivan has not reported on the phone tree. Karen S. will ask Jaede to remove the names of members who request no emails. Mary will work on developing a roster that can be sent out electronically.
- 3) Website - The board decided that GCTC should have its own domain on the web and authorized further exploration of this alternative. The cost should be reasonable, possibly \$100 annually. Helen will report to the board at their next meeting on what would be involved in making the change. Pat Gibbs and Gigi Lawton have volunteered to maintain the site. Karen S. and Helen will meet with Teri Personeni regarding the change. Karen S. will contact Merrill Kagan-Weston regarding the possibility that one of her employees could perform the migration of the website needed.
- 4) 2014 Calendar update - Robinson Flat is fine for the short rides we do. The Western States Trail should be ready by the date of the Tevis Cup, Aug. 9. We should keep the campout on the calendar.

New Business:

- 1) Nevada County Horsemen President Charles Green has offered to coordinate with us on unspecified areas of mutual interest. GCTC focuses on trail riding, but there may be a possibility of sharing their arena for certain events that would be of common interest. Karen S. will contact him to encourage further discussion.
- 2) Unfilled committee chairs - Mary will contact Laura Duncan about calling those who indicated an interest in publicity on their membership forms. A Trail Work Day coordinator is also needed. Melissa volunteered to do the planning and coordinating, but a person needs to be on-site. If the task is split, we may be able to find someone to act as on-site leader. They would need to get tools, put up signs, arrange sign-in, form groups, and give safety talk. We need to get a copy of Forest Service safety guidelines from Heather. Willie can provide details on work needed. He may be able to assist leaders.
- 3) Printing costs for Lone Grave maps is \$39 per 100 copies. It's under \$80 for both Skillman and Lone Grave. The board authorized Willie and Sue to have the maps printed.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:55.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Wyeth, Secretary

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

Next Meeting
Tuesday, March 11
7 p.m.

