

# Trail Times



[www.GoldCountryTrailsCouncil.org](http://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

As I write this, many GCTC members are at Little Lasier Meadows for the campout and work day. I know we have an excellent turnout. It's a beautiful place to camp and ride. Our efforts keep the trails clear and usable and the campground pristine.

Our work day at Skillman was a definite success. We had an excellent turnout with enough people to finish all the campground work that needed to be done. Getting everything cleaned up was a minor miracle, since the loggers were doing the final clearing of the debris on our work day. Thank you very much to those who came to make sure the campground was cleaned up for the GCTC Poker Ride.

The poker ride on June 3 was a wonderful success. Elicia Kamberg did a fantastic job. This was her first time managing the poker ride and getting everything organized. It really requires everyone's participation to be successful. Thank you to all the volunteers who gave of their time and energy, and to everyone who provided food.

The weekend of our poker ride was also the Celebration of Trails. Our poker ride was publicized in the Bear Yuba Land Trust materials. In addition, we had a booth at the Ol' Republic Roadhouse (Old 5 Mile House). Thanks to Harry and Karen Wyeth for putting up the booth and telling people about GCTC. Helen McDermott was also there with her horse. He was a big hit! I have on good authority that the dance number they did together was amazing.

We continued to participate in the Celebration of Trails weekend on Sunday, with a guided ride at Skillman. With a very

short notice, we got 16 riders from as far away as Modesto and Lodi.

Thanks to Pamela Schwartz and Nicole Schoppe for leading 2 different groups. Both groups rode from the GCTC Equestrian Trailhead to the Harmony Market for lunch. Pamela's group went via the Hoot trail, using it as a connector trail.

Our new trail patrol is underway! In May alone, GCTC members patrolling the trails, both on foot and on horseback, were on the trails for 63.5 hours. If you're interested in joining the trail patrol, let me know. We are going to have another checkout clinic.

Please continue to write Park Watch Reports about any incidents on the trails, including the Hoot trail. Continuing to submit reports is critical. If we don't write reports, the Forest Service assumes there aren't any issues on the trails. Please, ride or hike the trails and write a report if appropriate.

This year, to increase attendance at Skillman Horse Camp, we endeavor to provide guided rides in both July and August. Thanks in advance to Cathy Scott and Lori Codey who are leading the August ride. As I write, information about it was just posted on the Skillman Horse Camp Facebook page. Due to the guided ride, the Skillman campground is completely booked for that weekend in August. It appears guided rides are going to work beautifully to increase attendance at, and enjoyment of, Skillman. Please consider leading a guided ride in July!

July 10 is the general meeting, and the all-important ice cream social. I'll see you all at the meeting!

**Helen Harvey, President**



**GCTC GENERAL MEETING***(Everyone's Invited!)***TUESDAY, July 10 @ 7 p.m.**Nevada County Horsemen Clubhouse  
10600 Bubbling Wells, Grass Valley, CA*Come to the meeting,  
Stay for the scoop!*

### Advertising Space Available 2018 Newsletter & Phonebook Advertisement

Place your business card size advertisement in the GCTC Newsletter for just \$5 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.*

**JULY**

- June 29 - July 1** Little Lasier Meadow Camp/Work/Ride  
**July 4** Grass Valley parade (non-GCTC event)  
**July 7** Royal Gorge day ride  
**July 10** General Meeting - 7 p.m.  
**July 13-15** Loney Meadow Camp/Work/Ride  
**July 14** Loney Meadow Work Day for everyone  
**July 28** Western States Endurance Ride - Tevis (non GCTC event)

**AUGUST**

- August 8-12** Nevada County Fair  
**August 14** Board meeting - 7 p.m.  
**August 18** Skillman Horse Camp Guided Ride  
**August 22** GCTC Trail work day

<http://www.goldcountrytrailsCouncil.org>

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Minutes of the GCTC Board Meetings and the current 2018 GCTC Events Calendar can be accessed on the GCTC Website  
[www.GoldCountryTrailsCouncil.org](http://www.GoldCountryTrailsCouncil.org)

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**CELEBRATION OF TRAILS**

Harry and Karen Wyeth set up a table and provided information about GCTC and trails at the Celebration of Trails at the former Five Mile House, now owned by Ol' Republic Brewery.

The restaurant was not yet open, but they served some of their beers on the patio.

It was a lovely setting and we all had a chance to meet other trail enthusiasts. County Supervisor Richard Anderson gave a talk about the importance of trails and the future Pines to Mines trail which will run from Truckee to Nevada City, using in great part trails that were originally built by GCTC.

Helen McDermott rode to the Celebration from her property on her lovely and well-behaved horse Copper. They were a great source of interest and were excellent ambassadors of horses used on the trails.

Attendance from the public seemed less than in previous years, perhaps because there was also an event in Nevada City at the brewery itself.

However, it was a lovely setting enjoyed by everyone there.

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

- **Bruce Mufflers & Welding**

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.



## GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL 2018 ANNUAL POKER RIDE

Like all organizations, it takes money to run the Gold Country Trails Council. Tools and supplies need to be bought, food needs to be available to feed the volunteer work crews, flyers need to be made, web pages need to be run, and much more. The GCTC is a non-profit, funded entirely by membership fees, donations, and fund raisers. The primary fund raiser is the annual Poker Ride held by the GCTC every year at the Skillman Horse Camp in the Tahoe National Forest.

This year the Poker Ride was organized by my fellow board member Elicia Kamburg and her husband Bob. This was Elicia’s and Bob’s first year running the Poker Ride, but you certainly could not tell. Because of their organizing efforts, the ride went off without a hitch, and was a huge success.

There is more to the Poker Ride than people and horses going out on the trails. Weeks of preparation go into the ride. Coordination with USFS personnel, marketing and advertising, work days to clean up and prepare the camp site, soliciting donations for the drawings, planning and marking the trail, and organizing the 35 volunteer club members who stepped up to help. There were people soliciting donations, trail markers, checkpoint tenders, directing parking, and cooking and serving food. There is so much behind-the-scenes work, it is too much to list.

One of the most challenging jobs this year was to prepare Skillman Horse camp. It was in terrible shape due to logging work and a hard winter. Days before the ride, Elicia and Bob led a crew of volunteers as they worked furiously to prepare the camp for the 94 riders who participated in the Poker Ride.

Because of everyone’s efforts, the ride was a great success. Every one of the 94 participants was able to park their rigs, unload horses, and ride out on the beautiful trails. When the ride was complete, and all riders in, the wonderful food crew put out a feast to satisfy every appetite. Raffle tickets were sold, and after the lunch, there were drawings for the many donated prizes. At the end of the day, the club netted \$5,130.93 from the ride, after all expenses.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the hard working GCTC volunteers who made it possible, and to also thank those riders who participated in this fundraising effort. I would also like to thank the members of the local ham radio club, NCARC, who volunteered and provided the poker ride with communications support.

*Article by Bernie Molloy, GCTC Board Member*



**Lots of hard work leads to...**

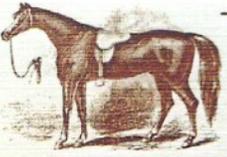




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### PENN VALLEY RODEO PARADE

The Penn Valley Rodeo Parade had the best showing of our club and GCTC was wonderfully represented. We had 10 riders, and 2 walkers carrying the GCTC banner, as well as one member walking ahead and taking some great pictures. The weather was as perfect as it gets in Penn Valley, and everyone's horse was well behaved and looking good!

Thanks to all who rode and walked, and to Bernie Molloy who loaned two of his orange club t-shirts so we could be a cohesive group... We looked fabulous walking the one mile from Gateway Park to the Rodeo Fairgrounds. It was a fun time for all and we invite everyone to join us next year.

*Linda Lanzoni*

**Riders:**

- Alexis Brasier
- Mary Dowling
- Stacy Graham
- Mary Ann Jorgenson
- Linda Lanzoni
- Frank Maricich
- Teri Personeni
- Cathy Scott
- Suzanne Vaccaro
- Nikki Vasquez

**Carrying the Banner:**

- Mike Dowling
- Barry Vaccaro

**Photographer:**

- Mike Vasquez



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## GCTC WINS 3rd PLACE IN 4th of JULY PARADE



This year's 4th of July Parade was marched in Nevada City. It was touch-and-go right up to the last minute, but we ended up with 7 riders and 5 on the ground and an ATV.

The parade was long and a little disorganized and we were the last ones down the parade route. But Pamela's sweet little (shaved) Icelandic, Cathy Scott and the rest of our ground crew, our beautifully decorated ATV and all of our gorgeous horses were just so outstanding, we won 3rd Place from the judges and there will be a ribbon to prove it!

So come on and ride with us next time... Penn Valley in May and next year's 4th of July will be in Grass Valley. Way too much fun! And we're now shooting for 1st Place!

*Linda Lanzoni*

**Riding:**

- Alexis Brasier
- Sabrina (Brusin)
- Linda Lanzoni
- Corrie Silva
- Pamela Swartz
- Lisa Swerdlow
- Suzanne Vaccaro
- Cathy Gillman on her trusty Stick Horse!
- Mark Scott driving the ATV



**Carrying the Banner:**

- Cathy Chase
- Maryann Jorgenson



**Picking up the Poop:**

- Cathy Scott
- Sue Brusin



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## LONEY MEADOW CAMP/WORK/RIDE Friday, July 13 through Sunday July 15.

Loney Meadows is located off Highway 20, about 30 miles east of Nevada City. Join GCTC as we clean up the trails in this beautiful area. We will camp at the "meadow/circle" camping area between Black's Cabin and Loney Meadow.

This is a dry camp, so plan on bringing plenty of drinking water for yourself and your horse. There are creeks nearby to water your horse, but rather far to carry water back to camp. There are no corrals, so you may put up your own portable corral, or highline your horse — there are lots of trees. If you highline, be sure to use tree savers to protect the trees.

You are also welcome to join us just for the day on Saturday, July 14. Our workday will begin at 9 a.m., and we will disperse in groups to the areas that need clearing. Since there isn't much brush clipping needed in the meadow, we plan to ride with loppers to Penner Lake and have lunch there. The Bowman Mt. trail has brush that is beginning to overgrow the road. One team can proceed up the Dairy trail and to the road to work on trimming that back.

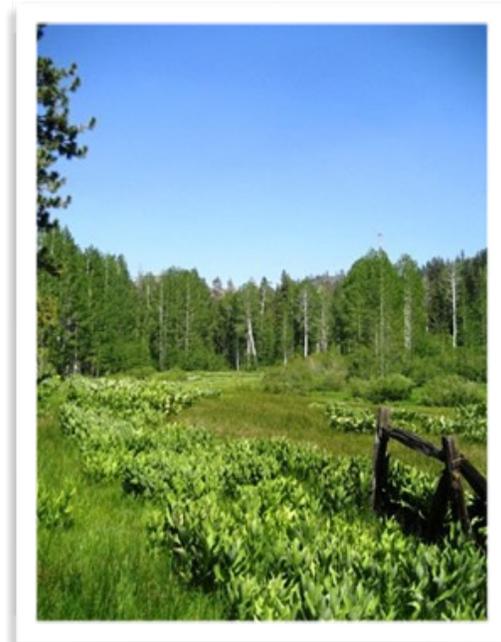
Please bring loppers, pruning clippers, pruning saws, gloves, insect repellent, hat, long pants, boots, and a jacket for the cool evenings. A bandana is nice to have if riding in a group on a dusty trail. I suggest you bring a light to medium sheet/blanket for your horse. The nights are cool, we might get rain, and the mosquitoes and other insects are persistent. This is not a designated campground, so no campfires are permitted.

A potluck dinner will be held Saturday night at 6:30 p.m. Folks are asked to bring their own table service, beverage and a dish to share.

I will be going up the morning of Friday July 13. Please let me know if you are coming. It will help determine parking and work parties.

I hope to see many of you there! This is the last group/club camp out of the year.

To confirm, get specific directions and information, or ask questions, please contact Teri Personeni, 530.273.9144 [home] 530.277-8374 [cell] or [teri@terobmorgans.com](mailto:teri@terobmorgans.com).



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### LITTLE LASIER CAMP/WORK/RIDE (June 29-July 1)



Though I have been a member of the club for a few years now, this was my first time to Little Lasier and camping with the group. I've had some trepidation about joining in with the larger groups with my horse, Jewel. She gets quite keyed up when she's around a bunch of horses.

But, fellow member, Kathy Cahouette, told me about the beauty of Little Lasier, so I decided to try it. I even convinced my husband to go. The three of us set out at midday on Friday. I'm so glad we did!



Coordinator Mary Johnson provided all the information we needed to prepare for the trip, and travel exactly to our camping spot. And, what a beautiful spot it was/is! Though we were far from the hand pump, carrying water from the creek for the horses was good exercise.

The next morning, GCTC members gathered, then divided into work parties. Some worked on various tasks in the

campground, while others hiked up the spur trail (leading to the PCT) to repair the rutted, rain washed trail. Led by Willie & Sue Brusin, we had expert guidance, and transformed the trail.



Then Kathy and I hit the trail. The Pacific Crest Trail through there is breathtaking. We even got to stop and chat with 4 different hikers halfway through their journey from Southern California to Canada. We finished the day with a delicious potluck dinner.

I now have a much greater appreciation for all that GCTC has done and continues to do! If you have the chance to go, do it!

*Pamela Warmack*



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