

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.

Greetings GCTC Members!

It's May!!! The year is in full swing with a calendar of events for you.

At the board meeting April 12, the board acted on a number of items that membership will be pleased to hear. Lone Grave trailhead port-a-potty will be in place May 1, May 18 Skillman Horse Campground opening work day, and Pioneer Trail Ride/Work/Campout May 19-21. Read the minutes for a complete record of agenda items discussed and action taken by the board.

April 17 was the first "official" work day at Lone Grave. There was a great turnout and I know Irv appreciated the numbers. The doughnuts were a nice incentive, we should continue that for future workdays. May 14 and 18 are the next scheduled workdays and we would like to see an even larger turnout of members.

At present there is not any new information to share about the future of Skillman horse Campground. With certainty what we do know is that the campground will operate as we know it through 2016 summer. A survey is being prepared to solicit your input on this issue. Stay tuned!

The good news? The trails are open and waiting for you to get out there and enjoy a ride with your equine companion. Last week we rode out of Upper Burlington and up Omega Rd. through Diamond Camp and back down the Pioneer Trail. Some stretches of snow on the road but not enough to hinder our forward movement. While riding we were treated to dogwood blossoms, loud jack hammer of the pileated woodpecker and a vast beautiful sky in our beautiful Tahoe National Forest.

Your President, Laura Duncan

Tuesday, May 10, 2016
Nevada County Horsemen Clubhouse
10600 Bubbling Wells
Grass Valley, CA

OUR MAY GCTC MEETING IS A TACK SWAP!

WHAT: GCTC MAY GENERAL MEETING

SPECIAL EVENT: TACK SWAP!!!

WHEN: Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Tack table set up and sale - 5:30 PM

(Bring your own table, there are some at NCH, but heavy.)

REFRESHMENTS: Super tasty, like always, after the meeting.

WHERE: Nevada County Horsemen Clubhouse
10600 Bubbling Wells Rd, Grass Valley

SELLERS!

Go look in the barn...bring:

- Old stuff
- Vintage stuff
- Like new stuff
- Unusual stuff



Anything horsey!

To make it easy to sell stuff, put your name, the size and price on each one. Bring change.

BUYERS!

You may find the PERFECT thing! To make it easy to buy stuff, put your horse's measurements and tack sizes you need on a card. Bring cash.

Melissa Ribley



LEAVE ONLY HOOF PRINTS



Top Hand Awardee Mary Johnson

2015 Top Hand high vote winner went to Mary Johnson. She was awarded the trophy at January general meeting to a standing ovation.

Mary is a tireless volunteer who donates her time, equipment and self to our organization for the preservation of trails. In the nominations emails, here are some of the many comments received:

"She (Mary) has worked consistently to keep the mission of the club alive. She has served as an officer, she has maintained the membership "committee of one" in an progressively more organized fashion for years, she has chaired Poker Ride and still is a major part of that fundraiser, which includes the storing and transporting of supplies. She brings the t-shirts and decals to the general meetings. She has been a representative for contact with TNF regarding the maintenance of Little Lasier Meadows, of which she has been the workday/campout chair for many years. She is not all that vocal in terms of what she does, but what she does is enormous. Now there is the upcoming work on the trail at Bowman Lake Road/Spaulding Lake that she has stepped up to coordinate with the other agencies involved. Obviously she has the entire scope of the club's mission in her heart. She is truly a representative of Gold Country Trails Council."

"I vote for Mary Johnson, she does it all."

"I would like to nominate Mary Johnson for Top Hand. She attends nearly every workday, does a gargantuan amount of work for the membership department and is always available to be the drop off point for club business exchanges."



"Mary Johnson, for all her years of supporting GCTC."

"She (Mary) organizes everyone and everything, and does a lot of work time on the trails."

"I would like to nominate Mary Johnson for the GCTC 2015 Top Hand Award for her continuing participation in the following club activities:

- (1) Camp work director for Little Lasier
- (2) Administrator for Membership
- (3) Provides her trailer, cook stove, and miscellaneous needs for the Poker Ride
- (4) Ambassador for the club; always going above and beyond to help members
- (5) Avid trail worker

And she does all this while working a full time job!"

"Mary Johnson is the epitome of the best of GCTC. She always volunteers, is always there when needed, and gives of herself no matter how difficult the job. There is no harder working advocate for equestrian trails than Mary Johnson."

Heartfelt thanks to our outstanding member Mary Johnson.

Submitted by Jaede M. and Laura D., 2015 Top Hand Committee

Pony Tailz
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Elaine Rhodes
Designer

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Loafter Creek Campout

On April 19th and 20th, Lori, Gwennie, Dallas, and I went out to camp at Loafter Creek equestrian camp at Lake Oroville. We consider this a "luxury" horse camp. It has horse shower stalls, a large round pen, horse pens, water and also nice bathrooms and showers for humans (need quarters) and of course tables and fire pits. Supposedly it has a beautiful 17.5-mile loop trail that starts and ends at the campgrounds. We have not figured out that long loop yet. We did ride the loop trail around camp a couple of times the day we got there and then trailered over across the dam to ride the Potter Ravine trails the



next day. All trails are mostly shady, very well groomed and beautiful this time of year. Potter's Ravine trail goes right along the lake part of the way. At Potter's Point there is a picnic table and trees to tie up and eat lunch and/or swim. There is a fee of \$7 per rig to use the area if you are not camping the day you ride there. There is also the Freeman trail - " a scenic ride through oak trees, over Sycamore hill and along the beautiful Feather River." We did not try that one.



Loafter Creek Equestrian Campground is about an hour drive via Hwy 70 or somewhat longer the prettier, but somewhat confusing, bumpy, and curvy back way off Marysville Road. Camping is \$45 a night and \$8 for 2nd rig or vehicle.

Website is <http://www.lakeoroville.net/lake-oroville-equestrian-camps>

Submitted by, Gigi Lawton

SAVE THE DATE! SKILLMAN HORSE CAMP WORK DAY

This is an important work day to get the camp ready for all the horse campers this year!

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

We will start work at 9:00 AM and finish by noon.

Bring loppers, rakes, a wheelbarrow if you can, gloves, water, and a chair for lunch.

We will have a delicious lunch provided by the club at noon.

This is one of our easier workdays in terms of hard labor, so please come on out for an enjoyable day at the beautiful Skillman Horse Camp.

If you have questions, contact Melissa Ribley at mmribley@gmail.com

Thanks,

Submitted by, Melissa Ribley

Laura Berman
Homes-Ranches-Land
 Broker Associate #934015
 Grass Valley, Ca
 530-913-8789
 gvrealtor@sbcglobal.net
 TheGrassValleyRealtor.com
 United Country Real Estate-Great West

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

Spenceville Ride

Our Gold Country Trails Council Spenceville ride was a great success! We used the rain date of March 19th. Spring in Spenceville is such a magical place and shouldn't be missed. It was oh so green. We had a wonderful group of riders, including our intrepid trail leader Mary Beyer, (thank you Mary) Deborah and Warren Thorsen, Sharleen Kelly, Susan Pinsker, Marsha Field, Pam Raymond and Jamie Canon. We had one non-member we hope joins the club. Sandy rode a beautiful buckskin. We had a last minute change in our meeting place. We met at the corrals just past the shooting range right on Waldo Road. During our pre-ride on Friday March 18th Mary Beyer, Karen Schwartz and I discovered the creek level was doable, but the high water from the recent rains had brought up large amounts of debris making getting up and out of Dry Creek too treacherous.

From the corrals we headed out over the rolling green hills dotted with happy California cows. We made a big loop up around Horseshoe pond then back towards Dry Creek ultimately. On the way crossing several beautiful rushing creeks and going through large stands of oak trees fresh with new lush green foliage. One section of the ride takes us on the same route many hikers take to walk to fairy falls. It was a pretty day for them too. But I'm always glad I'm on a horse. We followed Pittman Road in from Dry Creek to the trail that leads to the dam at Pittman Pond. It was a short cut I did not know about. Thank you, Deborah and Warren. Then back in to the trailers over those rolling hills, through those green green stands of oak trees, creeks, green grass and wild flowers, We sat and enjoyed lunch at the trailers with each other. It was a great day with great people. Thank you.

If you haven't ridden Spenceville in the spring you are missing out on one of life's beautiful rides. Hope you can join us next year.

Submitted by, Jamie Canon



<http://www.goldcountrytrailsCouncil.org>

Leaders

Camp Cook & Coordinator: Debbie Molloy
 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: Jeff Foltz, JGF4oaks@yahoo.com,
 916-625-1524
 Program Director: Melissa Ribley
 Publicity: Teresa Dietrich
 Sunshine: Charlotte Chapman,
charlottechapman2@aol.com 530-268-1145
 Skillman: Linda Lanzoni
 Tool Storage and Maintenance: Willie Brusin
 Trail Rides: Jamie Canon
 United Trails Work Day: Irv Mazur

Gold Country Trails Council Officers

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 Board Member: Fran Cole 272-6363
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cgreen4564@gmail.com

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Herd Addition

I have known Bev Blake for many, many years through breeding and showing Morgan Horses. About 10 years ago, the same time my fillies were born, her mare foaled the buckskin colt I always wanted. I have watched him grow into a lovely, 15.2 hand Morgan, quite tall for our breed. We have ridden together, camped together and shared our Morgan lives together. At one time Bev was going to move to HI and take her horses with her. Things didn't work out, so we were planning more camping and riding time. She has always had back issues and this year things culminated into an irreparable situation. When she told me she wanted to find just the right home for Maverick I jumped at the chance. We are both thrilled that he has come to live with me out in the pasture and on the trails. He is definitely show quality, but that is not the life she wanted for him. Much to my delight, my son has taken Maverick over and they are quite well suited.



The group photo is my son, his two kids and me on our ranch. Our first ever family ride! Andrew with Maverick, Louie with Terob Bittersweet Kiss [aka Fay], Valerie with Terob My Fair Lady [aka Lil] and me with Terob B Exquisite [aka Little B]

So Bev really is moving to HI this time, but no horses. She can be assured that he will be loved and cared for right along with my other Morgans. My dream to have a Morgan gelding has come true and a dream I didn't dare to dream has come about as well; to have my son ride with me!! Color me ecstatic!!!

Submitted by, Teri Personeni



GCTC Sunshine Person, Charlotte Chapman is in need of some Sunshine wishes herself. We hope you are well on the road to recovery from your knee injury in March. Take care of yourself!



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Mary Margaretich
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Gold Country Trails Council 2016 Calendar

MAY

- May 10 General Meeting - 7 p.m.
Swap/Tack Sale 5:30
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley
- May 13 Cronan Ranch Day Ride
Trail Boss: Irv Mazur
- May 14 Cable Trail Workday
Leader: Willie Brusin
- May 18 Work Day - Skillman
Leader: Melissa & Robert Ribley
- May 19-21 Pioneer Trail Work/Ride - Skillman:
Leader: Karen Schwartz
- May 26 Skillman Opens
- JUNE**
- June 4 GCTC Annual Poker Ride Fundraiser
Leader: Jeff Foltz
- June 4 Nevada County Celebration of Trails Day
- June 10-12 Western States Horse Expo
(non-GCTC event)
- June 14 Board Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley
- June 17-19 Wild West Endurance Ride
(non GCTC event)
- June 24-26 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

SEPTEMBER

- September 13 General Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley
- September 17 Work Day: TBA
- September 22-25 Draft Horse Classic (non GCTC event)
Barn Tour - Leader: Allyn Carman

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

DECEMBER

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

DID YOU KNOW???

California Vehicle Code 21759 (Passing Animals)

States a driver of a car or truck must approach animals with care. If you come upon a horse-drawn vehicle, someone on horseback or livestock crossing the road, you must maintain control of your vehicle and slow down. If necessary, you may have to stop your car and wait for the animals to pass you. You must also follow all signals indicated by the handler of the animal, and stop or slow down as instructed. The purpose of this law is to avoid frightening the animal and insure the safety of the riders, animals, and handlers. Usually, the handler or rider will allow you to pass at a reasonable pace. If they don't allow you to pass, there may be a reason for it -- like a narrow roadway or a skittish animal. If the handler signals for you to stop, it is for your own safety as well as the handler's and animal's safety.

If you whiz by the animals honking your horn and cursing, you are likely to cause the rider to have an accident. Moreover, you'll be a jerk too. A spooked horse is a dangerous horse, and many people have been killed or seriously injured when falling off a runaway horse. Horses are prey animals, and once they start becoming intimidated, it is sometimes difficult to get them back under control. Be courteous and yield the right of way to any animals you see on the roads.

If you're not cautious, and don't comply with the law you could be in trouble. If the rider or handler gets your license plate number you can expect to see a ticket and subpoena in the mail because a negligence and intentional infliction of emotional distress and violation of CVC 21759 charge may have just been filed against you.

Regardless of whether you are in a vehicle or riding a horse, it is important to work together to stay safe when out on the roadways. There are many shared responsibilities between the horseback rider and the driver of a car.

Submitted by, Teri Personeni

**GCTC First Annual Pioneer Trail
Camp/Work/Ride Skillman Campground**

This new GCTC event is scheduled for **May 19th through the 21st** this year.

The purpose of the Pioneer Trail Camp/Work/Ride is to celebrate our most outstanding accomplishment, the beautiful Pioneer Trail, by expanding our members' familiarity with GCTC's greatest achievement.

Similar to other GCTC Camp/Work/Ride events at Little Lasier and Loney, we'll be working on improving the trails around Skillman campground. We'll do trail maintenance work each morning and ride different parts of the Pioneer Trail each afternoon. Every evening we'll enjoy good food and great company. We'll gather together to share a different **BBQ** entree supplied by GCTC and supplemented by **potluck** dishes. Our Camp Cook Debbie Molloy will coordinate these meals.

But unlike other GCTC events, each afternoon you will have the option of a guided ride over a different part of the Pioneer Trail. If you already know the Pioneer Trail and the other trails around Skillman, you may plan your own trail rides each afternoon. But if you'd like a little company, each afternoon you'll have the option of a guided ride over a different part of the Pioneer Trail. Though we won't ride the whole 30+ miles of the Pioneer Trail, over the three days we'll ride the Pioneer Trail toward Lone Grave and toward the Bear Valley Overlook, as well as many of the other trails surrounding Skillman. We hope by end of the Pioneer Trail event you'll feel confident about riding these beautiful trails in the future.

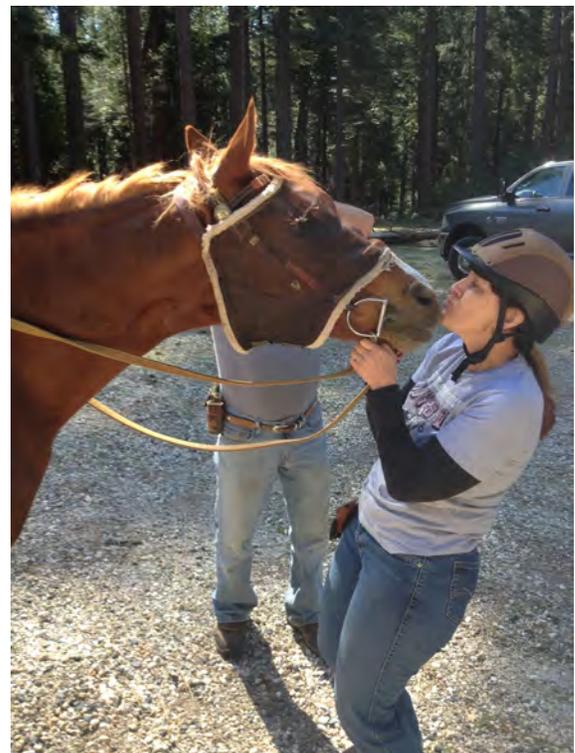
Because this is a trail work event in the Tahoe National Forrest, there will be **no charge for camping**, and first preference for campsites will be given to members who plan to attend all three days, then to those who plan to attend two days, and then to those who plan to attend only one day. Once you've reserved your place at the Ride, you'll receive a campsite assignment. To join the fun, or if you'd like more information, please contact Karen Schwartz at karen-schwartz@prodigy.net.



Howdy and Welcome to our newest members!!



- Beth Bordner
- Donna Cano
- Debra Foote
- Georgian Hartman
- Nanci Mason
- Douglas McIntosh
- Robin Bush
- Dyna Timmons



Irv Mazur's horse Sugar posting a greeting at Skillman

Submitted by, Charles Green

Harmony In Motion



Helen Harvey
Feldenkrais Practitioner
Centered Riding Instructor

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www.heartworks.bz/harmony

Little Lasier Meadow Camp/work/ride June 24-26, 2016

Mark your calendar for the annual camping weekend at Little Lasier Meadow. It will be here before we know it! With the generous snow and rain this winter the area should be lush and green with water in the creek this year. That also means there may be more maintenance needed! A reconnaissance trip will be made a couple of weeks before the work weekend to determine what needs to be done. Possible projects will be repairing the wooden corrals, adding another corral near site 3, cleaning up the camp, clearing trails, and improving the creek crossing by the bridge (water will be higher this year!) The work goes quickly with many hands, leaving plenty of time to ride. The camp is reserved for GCTC members (you must be a member) Friday through Sunday. This year the camp is being run by The Forest Service, not California Land Management whom we have worked well with for many years. The early request to reserve the June dates for GCTC was graciously taken care of by Mary Westmorland in the Truckee TNF office. We look forward to her continued support.



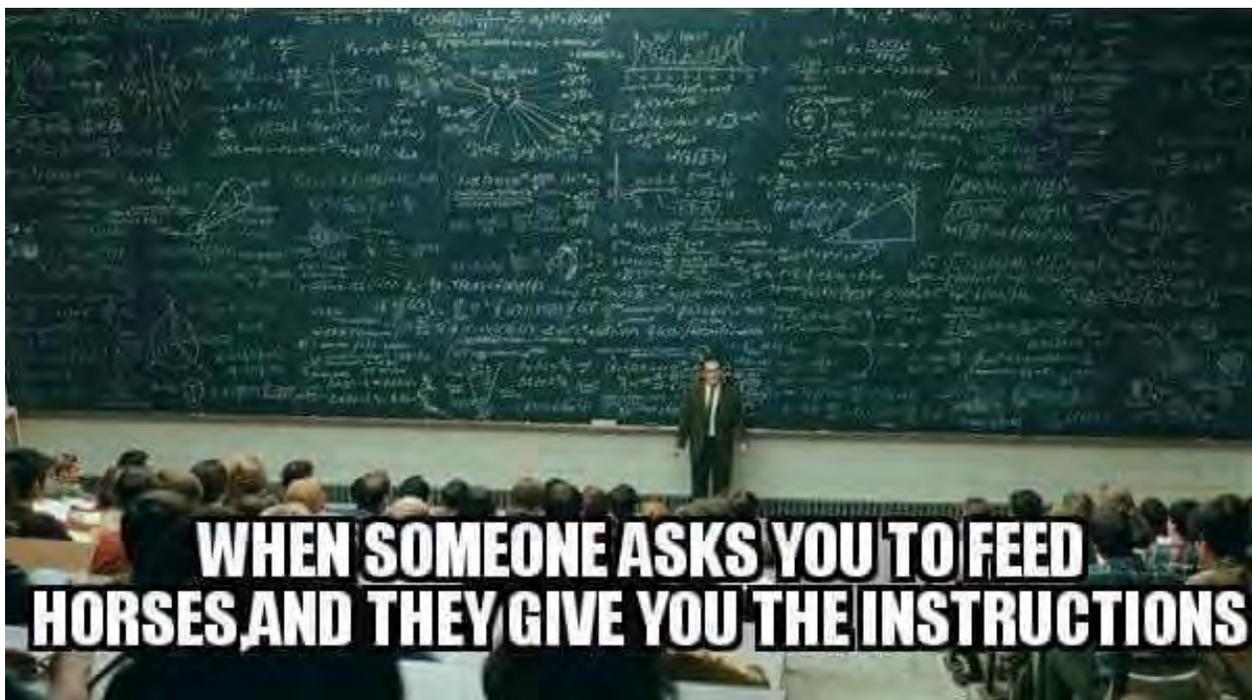
Several members will be camping the week prior to the work weekend. Reservations can be made through recreation.gov or you can take a chance and pay the camp host on arrival. Please let me know if you are planning to attend, what day you will arrive, what type of rig you have, how many horses and if you need corrals. There will be a few portable corrals available besides the 9 permanent corrals. Please bring your own portables if you have them. There are plenty of areas to put up high lines. Camp sites will be assigned to accommodate as many participants as



possible. The work party will be Saturday morning 8:30 to 12:30 and there will be a pot luck dinner on Saturday night.

Get your name on the list early! This is a popular event. Contact: Mary Johnson, 530-477-8501 mjshasta@aol.com

Submitted by, Mary Johnson



A Successful Start to 2016 Work Days!

A good number of GCTC members arrived April 17 at the Gold Country Equestrian Trail Head ready and willing to go to work for a few hours. Leader Irv Mazur thoughtfully provided doughnuts to get the crew started. Following sign in and the required safety talk the crews were given assignments, then car-pooled to the areas of work. Two areas of the Dascombe trail were flagged and ready for reroute work. Sue Brusin led one crew along Rock Creek road where erosion from water drainage was deteriorating the trail. The rerouted trail meanders a little farther away from Rock Creek Road. The workers removed the duff down to more solid dirt, keeping a mild slope to encourage water run off and also removing the edge berm so water will not be trapped on the new trail. The crew worked well in unison, each doing their specific job and moving at a good speed. The new trail was roughed out and then given the finishing touches. This portion of the trail is ready for riders. At a later date another section in this area will be given a reroute.

The second crew, guided by Irv Mazur, worked along the Dascombe trail that follows the power lines. This



section of trail that is quite rutted in places is being moved from under the power lines to a nicer single track trail several feet away, adjacent to the present trail. Because the "trail" follows PG&E lines, through a previous agreement, the Forest Service is required to maintain that area which is more like an access road. By moving the trail away from the lines the Forest Service is excused from the maintenance of the road and can concentrate on a more user friendly trail. The crew that worked on that section created a rough trail, which will later be finished with a trail machine. Willie Brusin and Jeff Foltz worked a distance ahead of the GCTC members using chain saws to clear the large brush. The crew following them roughed out the trail, clearing brush and exposing the stumps.

Both crews finished about the same time and met back at the trailhead for a great lunch put deliciously together and served by Debbie and Bernie Molloy. The workers relaxed during lunch, helped clean up and then went on to the rest of their day.

A BIG thank you to GCTC members that volunteered their morning to a great cause... improving and keeping our trails in tiptop shape! Thank you GCTC for providing the lunch!

Gail & Jim Plako, Ginny & Ernie Paske, Willie & Sue Brusin, Nikki Vasquez, Irv Mazur, Jeff Foltz, Suzzane & Barry Vaccaro, Robin Piney, Vicki Testa, Harry Wyeth, Adam Whillhect, Inger & Rob Avery, Heather Hill, Debbie & Bernie Molloy, Mary Johnson, Karen Schwartz, Laura Duncan, Debbie McKitrick, Krista Erickson, Charles Green

Submitted by, Mary Johnson

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

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



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

Mary and Debby Margaretich

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES
GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL
Tuesday, April 12, 2016 7 PM
Nevada County Horsemen's Clubhouse
10600 Bubbling Wells Road
Grass Valley, CA

Officers:

President Laura Duncan
Vice President Melissa Ribley
Secretary Mary Lundin
Treasurer Teri Personeni
Past President Karen Schwartz

Board Members:

Fran Cole
Charles Green
Merv Kril

Others attending: Mary Johnson, Willie and Sue Brusin, Linda Lanzoni

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by President Laura Duncan.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting

Teri Personeni moved that minutes be approved, Fran Cole seconded. Motion carried.

3. Approval of the Treasurer's Report

Teri reported the bank balance as of 4/12/16 to be \$28,122.94. Motions made and carried to approve Treasurer's Report.

4. Forest Service Report-See attached report

A. NEPA report finalized for Cable Trail. A joint workday with BONC will be on Saturday, May 14th, to be led by Willie.

B. The Rock Creek Road drainage is directed to run down the Dascombe Trail causing the erosion of the trail. Paul Hart has given the approval to remake the area of trail affected. A workday is scheduled for April 17th, to be led by Irv Mazur.

C. The trail signs on the Dascombe Trail near Rock Creek Road have been vandalized. The flagging marking the April 17th reroute were removed and had to be replaced on Wednesday.

D. Willie will meet with Paul Hart on Wednesday, April 13th to discuss trail signs and maintenance flagging.

E. Willie and a Forest Service representative met last year to discuss the addition of long switchbacks on the Bowman Mountain Trail reroute. Paul Hart is working on this plan in anticipation of the construction with BONC in September.

F. The Gold Country Equestrian Trailhead map board is missing. Willie suggests we propose to the FS that GCTC install a 2" steel pipe, 2' in the ground with cement, to hold a new board. He will get a quote for supplies, and with board approval, will ask for FS approval to install the new board.

G. The large tree on the Meyer/Dascombe trail has been cut.

H. Willie and Sue attended the meeting of the Farwest Geoscience Foundation's proposal for a Tall Pines/Blue Tent Ditch Loop Trail project. This is near the Omega overlook/Diamond Creek area by the toilets. The proposal is to fund this trail, including bridges, by donations. Willie asked that someone else keep up on this project. Fran Cole and Pam Swartz will be GCTC representatives.

5. Old Business

A. Poker Ride update-Jeff Foltz

Laura reported for Jeff that Poker Ride plans are progressing nicely except one issue. The Forest Service wants to charge \$750 rental fee for the use of the campground. There has not been a charge in the past for either the rental or the use permit. Laura felt the request may stem from the FS not wanting the public to think GCTC is getting special considerations. The Board suggested that Cecelia, who is new to this position at TNF, be informed of the fact that GCTC has supplied all the monies and labor for Skillman campground improvements since its inception. She may not understand that this fundraiser is for continued support of TNF trails and horse camps. The recent change in FS employees, as well as the new FS policy of managing the campgrounds, has created some confusion about the role GCTC continues to play in providing for public access for recreation.

It was decided that 4 single temporary pipe corrals will be put up for use at the Poker Ride. They will not be installed permanently at this time due to the uncertainty of Skillman Campground's future, despite approval from the FS to do so.

B. Three year strategic plan

Laura will ask Helen Harvey to chair the planning of the 3 year plan. Helen has the previous 5 year plan on computer.

C. GCTC Credit card update

Teri reported that Chase Bank wants Teri's personal financial information before issuing a credit card to the club. This is not acceptable to Teri as the purpose of getting a credit card is to avoid using her personal card for club business. It was suggested that she speak personally to the local bank branch and point out the club bank balance that is carried there in our checking account. She will follow up on this and report back.

D. Skillman update

The issue of what GCTC wants for the future of Skillman Campground was discussed. Melissa Ribley will put together survey questions to discuss with Cecelia before taking to the membership.

E. Tack swap update

Charles Green will open the NCH clubhouse at 5:00. The tack swap will be set up outside at 5:30, in the area not used for parking. Members should bring their own display tables. The business meeting will be inside from 7:00 to 8:00. Those wishing to remain outside with their tack may do so. The event will end at 9:00 so that the clubhouse may be closed at that time. Charles will invite NCH members to participate.

F. Pioneer Trail Work/Ride Campout

The campout will be held the day after the scheduled workday on May 18th. Thursday will be to get settled in, and trail riding. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday will have trail work scheduled in the mornings, and trail rides in the afternoons. GCTC will provide BBQ dinners each evening, with members providing pot luck items to share. This will be advertised in the upcoming newsletter, as well as email.

6. New Business

A. Payment for Celebration of Trails participation

Registration fees have been paid by Teri. Merv Kril and Carol Scuria will represent the club. T-shirts will be available for purchase. Available will be newsletters, membership applications, trail maps, and possibly flyers about the club.

B. Renewal of ACE membership

Motion was made and carried to continue to renew membership in Action Coalition for Equestrians (ACE).

C. Donation for Auburn Fairgrounds barn repair

A request was made for the club to make a donation to the Auburn Fairgrounds toward repair of the horse barns. The barns are used during Tevis and other equine activities. The Board did not feel this was in keeping with our mission to build and maintain trails and therefore denied the request. Members who wish to support this individually are encouraged to do so.

D. Lone Grave Port-A-Potty-Melissa Ribley

Melissa requested that the Board approve payment for 5 months rental of a port-a-potty at the Gold Country Equestrian Staging Area at Lone Grave. One additional month will be paid by the Wild West Endurance Ride. The fee is \$90 per month and will run from mid-May until the end of October. The club is responsible for damage to the unit. It was suggested a sign be attached to a tree stating this is courtesy of GCTC. Club members stated in the past that they wanted the port-a-potty there. Teri motioned, Fran seconded, motion carried.

E. Additional fund raising-Merv Kril

Merv and Carol suggested ways of fundraising in addition to the annual Poker Ride. Ideas included a Safety Fair, highlighting trailer safety, animal rescue, etc., a trail ride, member cookbook, a clinic, tack swap with the club receiving a percentage of sales, and sale of a referral list such as that collected and distributed by Jaede. Also using the NCH arena in the fall for a joint trail trial day similar to that put on by Running I Ranch in Dunnigan.

F. Roll call of BOD/Officers at meetings for minutes

Secretary Mary Lundin asked for guidance regarding listing all Officers and Board members in attendance in the minutes. Because it is inefficient to try to visually locate these people in the audience, Board members will sit at the tables in front during the general meeting and will be listed in the minutes. This will also help members become acquainted with the current officers.

G. Press Releases/Articles for newspapers and magazines-Mary Lundin

Mary brought up the consensus from a past year's board meeting that all members are encouraged to provide club information to the public, but that all submissions be given to the Publicity Chair (currently Teresa Dietrich). She then sends them to the President for review before releasing them for publication. This encourages members to be active in public outreach, but offers review for accuracy. The Board agreed that this is the current policy and would continue with such.

H. Date change request for Thanksgiving meeting

Laura requested that due to the national election taking place on this day, and because she will be working at a polling place as may other members, she would like to have the meeting date changed to the next Tuesday, which is November 15th. Charles will check for availability of the clubhouse. (The date has been officially changed, the calendar updated, and notification sent by email to members.)

7. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35.

Submitted by Mary Lundin, Secretary