



# 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.

### President's Message

The poker ride was a wonderful success. We netted about \$4100 to be used for trail work. Hopefully, everyone had as much fun as I did. The turnout was fantastic. All the volunteers make the poker ride possible by helping with everything from soliciting donations and bringing food to accomplishing the myriad tasks on the day of the ride.

September is membership renewal month. We currently have 184 individual members. This number does not include the members added because of family memberships. Our membership keeps growing every year. For next year, the board decided to raise the cost of membership to \$25.00. We did a survey of different organizations involved with equestrian activities and trail work before deciding to make the change. Considering what we offer, and the work we accomplish, the membership is still a bargain. Of course, GCTC membership is tax deductible. For members who are having financial difficulties, we will continue the anonymous membership sponsorship that we initiated last year. We are just breaking even this year after taking into account the cost of the Pioneer Trail reroute, and there are additional projects we would like to undertake in the future.

We've been actively soliciting donations to fund the porta potties at Empire Mine and Lone Grave. We are having difficulty getting donations, although we did just get two donations to cover the cost of the porta potty at Empire Mine for about 3 months. There is some possibility we can get business funding in January. At this point, if we don't have sufficient funding, we intend to remove the porta potty from Empire Mine at the end of September. The consensus is that our mission is to build and maintain trails, not fund porta potties.

See you at the meeting in September.

**Helen Harvey, President**

### GOLD COUNTRY TRAIL COUNCIL MAKING A DIFFERENCE

If you think you are not making a difference as a Gold Country Trails Council member....read this nice note from a new member....and think again!

Dear Membership,

I live in Gardnerville NV and often enjoy riding and camping opportunities in your part of the world. I am so impressed with the dedication and commitment of your association to improve trails and campsites for the equestrian community. I would like to become a member of such an active/involved group. Although I cannot participate in your workdays, I hope you will accept a donation and my membership to assist in campsite repair and trail maintenance. Thank you again for all your efforts on behalf of all trail riders.

Sincerely,

Submitted by, Ronda Ballinger



**GENERAL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 7:00 P.M.**

**GOLDEN EMPIRE GRANGE HALL**  
**off LA BARR MEADOWS ROAD**

**Speaker:** Debbie Murphy, will be speaking about the V6 Ranch (Varian) riding vacation.

**IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL  
TIME AGAIN**  
**Go to Page 7 for Renewal Information**



## 2012 CALENDAR

### SEPTEMBER (Membership Renewal)

- 11 General Membership Meeting
- 15 Upper Pioneer Trail Ride
- 21-23 Draft Horse Classic (non GCTC event)
- 29 Work Day, Lone Grave

### OCTOBER

- 9 Board Meeting\*
- 13 United Trails Work Day
- 20 Lone Grave Ride/BBQ
- 27 Lone Grave Ride/BBQ (rain date)

### NOVEMBER (Elections)

- 13 General Membership Meeting  
(dinner, elections)

### DECEMBER

- 11 Board Meeting\*

\* BOD Meetings (October and December) will be held at the Coldwell Banker Grass Roots Realty office at 855 Sutton Way, Grass Valley.

### Committee Chairs

Camp Cook & Coordinator:  
Merrill Kagan-Weston  
Email Notifications: Jaede Miloslavich  
Forest Service Liaison: Willie Brusin  
Historian: Sharon Silver  
Hospitality: Lori Moniz-Waddell  
Little Lasier Meadow: Worth & Mary Lundin,  
Mary Johnson  
Membership: Mary Johnson  
Newsletter: Lynn Mangel  
Phone Tree: Melissa Ribley  
Poker Ride Fundraiser: Linda Lanzoni  
Program Director: Melissa Ribley  
Publicity: Open  
Skillman: Robert & Melissa Ribley  
Tool Storage and Maintenance: Willie Brusin  
Trail Rides: open  
Web Master: Ron Brown  
United Trails Work Day: open

### Gold Country Trails

#### Council Officers

President: Helen Harvey 265-6908  
[harmony@heartworks.bz](mailto:harmony@heartworks.bz)  
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Secretary: Karen Schwartz 470-8790  
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Treasurer: Kathy Southgate 478-9813  
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Board Member: Vicki Testa 273-1735  
[vickite@att.net](mailto:vickite@att.net)  
Board Member: John Connelly 530-432-7028  
[johncon5@att.net](mailto:johncon5@att.net)  
Board Member: Jeff Foltz 916-625-1524  
[jgf4oaks@yahoo.com](mailto:jgf4oaks@yahoo.com)

## Tevis, From The Back Of My Horse

A New Book By  
Sharma Lynn Gaponoff

Order your copy today:  
[SharmaGaponoff.com](http://SharmaGaponoff.com)



Proceeds donated by the author to the  
Western States Trail Foundation, organizers of the Tevis Cup Ride

Howdy and Welcome to



Rhonda Ballinger  
Michael Duffy  
Linda Foreman & John Lyon  
Merry Law  
Rafe Little, Alanna Lungren,  
Haven and Amanda Little  
Holly, Sarah, Mark & Jim Neal  
Suzanne Vaccaro  
Kevin Windrem  
Mia Young

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### OUR 2012 POKER RIDE

This year's annual Poker Ride was another successful event thanks to so many wonderful volunteers. We had perfectly marked trails, great prizes, delicious food and somehow, we managed to get all the rigs for the unexpected crowd of 117 riders parked and off the road. The day seemed to flow smoothly even though we panicked over not enough playing cards and had to scramble to get more ready and we also had to improvise a bit when the food started to disappear while we still had hungry riders. But, regardless of those issues and the bees that just had to sting a few riders and horses, everywhere I looked people were relaxing, smiling and talking about the great ride they had just experienced. AND, we made a fantastic profit of about \$3800.00!

Much thanks goes to Laura Duncan, Mary Johnson, Helen Harvey, Willie and Sue Brusin, Brad Weston, Ginny Dix, Pat Huntsinger, Lisa Swerdlow, Gigi Lawton, Ann Rubenstein, Lori Moniz, Jaede Miloslavich, Merrill - Kagan Weston, Sharon Silver, Don Soto, Mike Curry, Jack Prust, Jeff Foltz, Larry Schwartz, Cheri Crain and her granddaughter, Joan Fowle, Ann Driver, Karen Schwartz, Teri Personeni, Mary and Worth Lundin, Stephanie Hensey, Claudette Paige, Barbara Hobbs, Susie Roush, Jamie Canon, Debbie and Cal McKitrick, Vicki Testa, Karen and Harry Wyeth, Gail Anderson and all the folks who made, bought and brought food, donated items and supported the ride by riding in it. You were a fabulous crew and this would not have happened without you. I really enjoyed being your chairperson this year and look forward to doing it over again in 2013.

Submitted by, Linda Lanzon  
Pictures curtesy of Cal McKitrick



**Gigi Lawton Reports**

My wonderful weekend ended when three loose dogs ran my horse off the steep trail above Lower Rock Lake. I came off and slid down the hill to be stopped by a tree. I was able to remount and return to camp, but after resting, I found I was unable to stand up. 911 was called by a camper who had to drive up to the ridge to get cell service. After the fire department arrived, I heard the ambulance, but to my surprise a helicopter was circling above. Fortunately, as a member of GCTC, I had taken advantage of the group rate for Cal Star Air Ambulance and it was them. Of course they could not land at camp, so the ambulance from Truckee had to take me to the helicopter in the open meadow.



After 5 hours at Roseville Trauma Center and countless tests and exams, I was released with multiple bruises and scrapes. Fortunately nothing was broken and all the medical folks were very happy (as was I) that I was wearing my helmet while riding.

I did receive the bill from Cal Star about 2 days later for \$40,000!! They had not bothered to check my membership, but I straightened that out, I hope. Cal Star claims, that as a member - even if your insurance does not pay the bill or all of it there is no charge to the member! My insurance is still considering their bill.

Please wear your helmet on the trail, carry your ID and cell phone (although they rarely work around here) and ride with a companion! My horse and I have done many, many trails miles and have lots of experience in the back country and I ended up taking an air ambulance home at the end of a nice horse camping/riding weekend.

Submitted by, Gigi Lawton

*Tevis, From the Back of My Horse*  
my new book, is now available  
Visit [SharmaGaponoff.com](http://SharmaGaponoff.com)  
and order your copy today!

**SPECIAL THANKS**

Some of our members are unable to get out for the workdays but want to contribute to the success of this great organization. The Gold Country Trail Council would like to recognize the following individuals for their generous donations.

- Rhonda Ballinger
- John Connelly
- Don and Ginny Dix
- Suzanne Ferroggiaro
- Gold Country Gaited Horse Club

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Check out the following websites:  
[www.goldcountrytrailscouncil.org](http://www.goldcountrytrailscouncil.org)  
[www.parkwatchreport.org](http://www.parkwatchreport.org)  
[www.coolhorsetrails.com](http://www.coolhorsetrails.com)



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 with the information and she will be happy to send a cheery note or card to light up their day.

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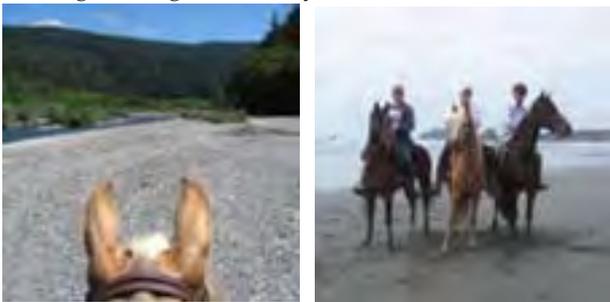


### EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME

From Yosemite to the redwoods and the Pacific Ocean, we three gals rode our trusty mounts on a two-week odyssey.

What a grand time we had! Chestine Anderson, Jane Smith and I had the experience of a lifetime.

Jane came from Mariposa, CA [near Yosemite] to Nevada City, CA to meet up with me. The next day we hauled our horses farther up into Northern CA to Garberville to meet Chestine. Our day was not without its trials. With a 7 to 8 hour drive ahead of us, we arose before dawn to feed the horses and finish packing the trailer. Only a few hours into the day we ran into the perennial roadwork, which delayed us. As we sat in the heat I felt sorry for the horses in the hot trailer. Before we went too much farther we had a severe blowout. At least it was on the trailer and not the truck. I drove up on the special tire changer lift, but could not break the lug nuts loose. Without cell service I couldn't call roadside assistance, so Jane flagged down a passing motorist. A very nice family stopped to help us, heat and all. As the guy was wrestling with the lug wrench, we gals chatted and found out that he was an engineer at Aerojet. Gosh, they are practically my neighbors. Such a small world we live in. Aerojet is a leader in the development and manufacture of aerospace propulsion systems, precision tactical weapon systems and armament systems, including warhead and munitions applications. Aerojet is the second leading provider in both the solid and liquid propulsion market areas, as well as the number one provider in the tactical segment area of solid propulsion. Good thing for us; he was able to break loose the lug nuts and change out the tire. Of course, I had to empty the tack room to get to the spare tire. Meanwhile, since it was so hot we were all in sandals and had disturbed an ant nest. They let me know in not so polite a way by crawling up my feet and legs, biting all the way!



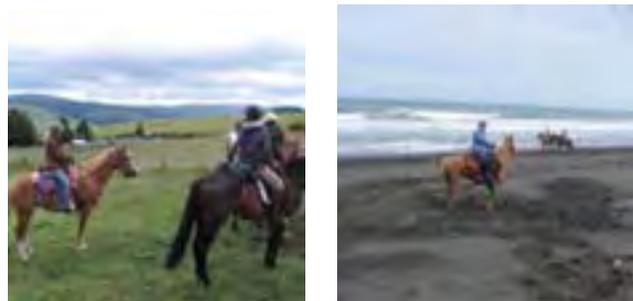
Tire changed and on our way we wended our way through the hills, past Clear Lake and on to lunch in the cute little town of Calpella. Chestine met us in Garberville and led us to Cuneo Creek Horse Camp.

This is a really nice campground in Humboldt Forest dedicated to equestrians. Each campsite has a fire pit, two corrals, running water and plenty of places to park. There are two large group camps with dozens of corrals and very large food preparation areas with big BBQs. A great boon is the hot showers and flush toilets!! Showers are \$.50 for 5 minutes or \$.75 for 7 ½ minutes. What luxury!



The trails were varied and lovely. We rode through Douglas firs, oaks and many redwoods accented by thirty-foot high azaleas and other shrubs. There were steep trails, moderate trails and trails that were roads. We didn't begin to see all of them. All of the scenery was gorgeous and the weather was perfect. We were there for four days and I could have stayed much longer.

The next leg of our trip was a catered ride put on by the Redwood Chapter of Backcountry Horsemen as a fundraiser. Meals were well prepared and more than generous. It is called the Half Ass Flat ride due to the organizers who own the Half Ass Flat Ranch, which raises mules, aka half asses. The weather had changed and we met with light rains. The camping area is part of a cattle ranch and the grass was up to our knees and very wet. After soaking one pair of shoes, I donned sandals and rolled up my jeans. Our horses were quite happy in their corrals with all that grass. It rained the first night, but eased off enough to ride on Saturday with a light raincoat. The scenery was breathtaking! I understand that five cattle ranches allow the ride to go



See Lifetime on Page 6

### Lifetime Continued

through their properties. I had no idea there was so much pasture so close to the ocean or so many cows being raised there. Saturday's ride took us to the ridge tops through oaks and pines and opened up into vast areas of grassland. Some of the ridges gave us a distant view of the ocean. There was a huge campfire and live entertainment on Saturday night. Some folks even ventured to dance on the uneven ground. We were less than an hour horseback ride from the beach, which we explored on Sunday. The waves were crashing on the beach and made most of the horses pretty nervous. It was a short day and we left there Sunday afternoon.

Our next stop was Orick, a tiny little town on Hwy 101. The rain followed us there and continued all throughout Sunday night, all day Monday and Monday night. Tuesday dawned a lovely day with bright blue skies. We were anxious to investigate the trails. We stayed at the rodeo grounds for a mere \$10 per night per horse. There were small corrals with water and we parked on the grass near the port-a-potties. There was one flush toilet on the grounds



and one very large fire ring in the middle of our grassy camp area. Our closest neighbors were pretty little Jersey heifers who were very curious and came right up to the electric fence to inspect us. The fences were over 10 feet tall to keep the elk out of the pastures. We were there for four days and I never saw one single elk, although I was assured they were abundant.

There are several trails that all begin with the same stretch of hill climbing. Each trail was a different length, from three hours to two days. We tried the three-hour and the six-hour trails and marveled at the size of the ancient redwood trees. One tree was still standing and still growing although the heart had burned out. It was so large I was able to fit my horse inside the burned out section of the tree! Wednesday was our long ride and we were surprised to have startled a young bear. I was so excited that I was shaking as I dug my camera out of my pommel bag. The photos are identifiable only to me as I try to point out to others that the blurry

black blob in the trees really is a bear standing on its hind legs. The second picture is equally as blurry. Before I could catch my breath and quit shaking, it had vanished into the forest. Ah well, some experiences are only saved as memories. While I didn't see elk or capture that photo of the bear, raccoons visited us. Before anyone tells me how cute they are, I'll tell you they scared the life out of me. It was the middle of the night and I heard a large thud and felt my camper shake. I was sure it was that little bear and his mother who had followed us so they could raid our food. I held my flashlight out the door and saw the horses dozing peacefully. No bear. Well, maybe it was one of the elusive elk trying to break into my trailer to get my hay. I definitely wasn't going out to find out. In the morning I walked all around my truck and trailer looking for some sign of bear or elk tracks. The only tracks I found were little paw prints on the back door of the trailer. When I climbed up the ladder to get some grain there were tracks up there, too! In fact, they had chewed into my grain sack and spilled grain all over the roof! Very athletic, but not cute!

Thursday we ventured down the levee into the shallow Redwood Creek and up the other side onto the other levee, which took us on a one hour, ride to the ocean. We could see the Thomas Kuchel visitor center as we approached the sandy shore, which was littered with driftwood. We negotiated many logs and bushes to get to the open beach. While the waves weren't crashing as they were on our other beach ride, it was unfamiliar enough to my horse, Little B that she would not venture near the water. We made it a short day and returned to



the Orick Rodeo grounds in time to bid farewell to the other folks who were camped there. One couple was from WA and two other couples from WI. They had met at a ride in AZ a few years back and decided to ride through the redwoods on their respective ways home this time. They were delightful company around our nightly campfires and we were sorry to see them leave.

**See Lifetime continued on Page 7**

**Lifetime continued**

Friday we broke camp and drove south on Hwy 101 to Clam Beach. How nice to find an area large enough for our trailers and designated for "horse trailer parking only". We rode right to the waters edge only to have the gentle tide come in all covered in foam. I think my Little B would have been fine if it wasn't for all that foam. The beach is very slightly sloped which kept the waves far away from us. We rode north for nearly an hour and still didn't come to the end of the beach; it went equally as far to the south. Dogs are welcome and Chestine's Patterdale Terrier enjoyed herself by running into the water and up the beach and back into the water again and again. She got plenty of exercise that day! When it was time to call it a day we loaded up for the drive to Chestine's. We spent the night there then Jane and I went home on Saturday.

What glorious memories we created as we explored this part of California together.

Submitted by, Teri Personeni

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**SKILLMAN WORKDAY**

August 29 was a beautiful day for GCTC members to gather at Skillman to do some much needed trail work. 14 members attended and rerouted two sections of the Halaluja Trail that were eroding and becoming impassable by horses. We even had a couple of non-members show up to help! The trail around Skillman is now in great shape thanks to the following hard working club members:

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Alan Gwiardon    | Jeff Foltz     |
| Vicky Testa      | Nye Perros     |
| John Conelly     | Jackie Conner  |
| Kathy Southgate  | Rafe Little    |
| Gail Anderson    | Robert Ribley  |
| Debbie McKitrick | Melissa Ribley |
| Helen Harvey     |                |

Laura Duncan did a fabulous job providing us with a tasty lunch which we all enjoyed after the workday.



Submitted by, Melissa Ribley

**IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME**

It is time to renew your commitment to keeping our wonderful area trails open for our enjoyment! Your support and/or participation are both needed to continue the purpose of Gold Country Trails Council: ...."to develop, maintain, and protect non-motorized recreation trails in the sierra foothills area for public use and enjoyment." While accomplishing that task, members also enjoy fun trail rides, interesting informed speakers, social gatherings, a great newsletter, trail information, delicious lunches at trail work days, and wonderful opportunities to camp and ride, all in the company of dedicated, fun loving, hard working, like minded people.

Send your 2012 application in today! Don't miss any of the fun! Just fill out the **Renewal Form on Page 14** and return it with your **check for \$25** to GCTC. You also need to sign and return the **Release From All Liability Form on Page 15**.

### U-HAUL ADVENTURE

Where do we start? We had been looking forward to this "horse" camping trip with the **Gold Country Trails Council** for months as a guest of Cherri Crain's. Karen was going to help clear the trails and work on the campsite while Joe went fishing. Joe got off work early on Wednesday to have his truck washed, oil changed and the gear loaded on the truck with precision. On Thursday, we left Wheatland at 8:30 a.m. headed for Cherri's to hook up the trailer and load the horse by 9:30 a.m. Everything went smoothly. Karen's horse, Taches, even loaded-up without a fight. Off we went looking forward to a fun camping trip.

At about 11:30 a.m. as we got closer to Truckee, Joe noticed the oil pressure on his truck had dropped and continued to drop to 20 pounds pressure and dangerously lower with warning light coming on. We pulled off at Truckee looking for a place to safely park a truck with a horse trailer. Joe saw an auto repair shop. Barry checked the oil and saw "sparkles" in the oil...too late, the engine was already damaged. "Your engine is blown" he said..."It's going to cost you." We decided to drive down the road and think about our options.

We stopped near the Truckee River by a house where Norman lived to figure out what to do. Joe called various car rental companies looking for a truck to pull the horse trailer. None had anything available. Finally, someone recommended "U-Haul" in Incline Village. After making a call, the manager agreed to drive down to Truckee, pick Joe up and bring him back for \$60 cash. Joe agreed. It took quite a while for Mr. U-Haul, Josh, to arrive due to roadwork around 1:30 p.m. Joe left with Josh leaving Karen and Taches alone on the side of the road beside a beautiful beach by the Truckee River.

While Karen and Taches waited for two hours, they actually had a nice time. Karen forced herself to imagine she was in Hawaii with her "big" dog on the beach. They enjoyed getting in the water and riding in the water. While tanning on the beach many visitors stopped by: 3 boys hunting crawdad; a man and his black lab (who stayed and visited for a while and shared his life adventures); a pregnant mother, father with their baby; mothers and their children who loved to see the horse and pet it, and the mothers also provided many ideas to help with our situation; a helpful homeless gentleman on a bike offering beer as refreshment; and we even discovered a homeless man in his living area on the beach where Taches was eating some delicious grass. The time just flew by as vacations do.

At 4:30 p.m., Karen finally spotted Joe in the U-Haul truck. Things were looking up. Everything was unloaded from the truck and loaded easily into the spacious U-Haul. Then when attempting to hook-up, the hitch would not come down on the ball completely. The plate on the U-Haul was too thick for the nose of the hitch to come down. Now what!! No worries, our hero ~Joe~ had it worked out, he backed up to the trailer at an angle so the nose came down without hitting the plate. After fighting Taches to get in the trailer, we were headed to our campsite only 30 minutes away. What could go wrong?

We took the first Forest Road 70 loop exit to early before "Mile 14.9". Taking the wrong turn and being low on gas is not a good situation to be in with a horse, no cell service, not knowing where we were, and with no safe place to turn around. We finally found a tight-fit turn around near the sign "Mile 3" and drove back to the main road. On fumes, we arrived at 8:30 p.m. tired and exhausted at Little Laiser Meadow with strange looks from Mary, Warren and Karen at the U-Haul truck pulling the horse trailer. "That's different," they said. Later Mary informed that if we kept going on "Road 70", we would have ended up at the campsite. We set up camp. Just after 10:00 p.m., we finished cooking dinner and ate.



Things were finally going well.

The next morning while having coffee, Joe was trying to figure out what to do about the gas situation, when Warren showed up to visit and noticed one of the horse trailer tires was flat. Great what else? When Karen and the gals saddled up their horses and to go for a two-hour ride, Joe decided that his best bet for gas was to go Jackson Reservoir and get help. Joe got to the little store that was the size of an office cubicle and was greeted by a female cashier, "Can I help you?" Joe said, "Yes. Do you want the short version or the long?" She made radio contact with her husband, Doug, who was

**See U-HAUL on Page 9**

**U-HAUL Continued**

planning on coming up for lunch and brought three gallons of gas. Problem solved. Joe made it back up the hill to Sierraville, got gas in the U-Haul, put gas in the gas can, picked up a 12 pack of soda as a "thank you" to Doug for the use of the gas can and was again "hero of the day" saving us.

What can we say..."U-Haul...vacation adventures"??? Oh and Joe never got to go fishing.

**Epilogue:** Our truck that was left in Truckee was safe and sound when we picked it up; it wasn't broken into or stolen. To save on the cost of towing, Joe decided to drive it down the hill. We were "barely" able to make the drive downhill to Wheatland without the truck oil pressure dropping again. Cherri came up on Saturday, worked on the trails, then hooked up the horse trailer to her truck and drove Taches home down the hill after stopping at two gas stations to put air in the tire. Good news...we all made it safely back home.

**Submitted by, Joe and Karen Jeffers**  
June 28 – July 1, 2012

**UC Davis Veterinary Emergency Response Team (VERT)**

**Mission:** The main purpose of VERT is to train veterinarians and UC Davis veterinary students in how to integrate into, and manage, a multi-agency emergency response to an animal incident. VERT's mission is to provide a community resource for animal related technical rescues/field emergencies and disaster response, while training future veterinarians in emergency and disaster response, large animal technical rescue and professional integration into the first responder 9-1-1 system. VERT operates on a volunteer basis serving our community with education in both large animal and companion animal emergency and disaster preparedness.

**Membership:** VERT is comprised of faculty and associate veterinarians and veterinary students from the School of Veterinary Medicine at UC Davis.

**Qualifications:** The Deployable VERT (D-VERT) members, provide not only their clinical experience with animals, but also have certified training in the Incident Command System (ICS) and are sworn Disaster Service Workers for Yolo County thus allowing our team to integrate into multiagency emergency and disaster scenes effectively.

Further qualifications for the Deployable VERT members include mandatory participation in the following courses:

1. Veterinary Integration into Multi-Agency Emergency Equine Rescue and Disaster Response

2. Loose Livestock, Injured Wildlife and Humane Euthanasia
3. Veterinary Considerations for Disaster Sheltering
4. Equine Emergency Rescue by Helicopter Long Line Airlift
5. Participation in at least one multi-agency drill per year

**Operational Plan:** VERT provides technical assistance in animal rescues when local veterinary and/or first responder efforts are overwhelmed or not adequately trained. These incidents may last a few hours, a day or be prolonged; this type of incident is considered a low frequency event. However, these low frequency/high profile events for which the University is requested to respond, are important for animal welfare, training of veterinary students and the image of veterinary medicine at the University. In order to triage these requests, we require that prior to deployment, requests for assistance must come from a veterinarian at the scene and/or mutual aid request from responding fire and/or law agencies.

Our goal is to have VERT deployed under the umbrella of the International Animal Welfare Training Institute (IAWTI). The mission and teaching statement for IAWTI is to facilitate training, education and dialogue for animal welfare by bringing together veterinarians, animal scientists, and other stakeholders to improve animal wellbeing. A VERT response has numerous benefits: the public would receive rapid intervention to their animal emergency, thereby improving animal welfare and the students would gain knowledge and experience through exposure to technical rescue and/or disaster incidents.

**VERT Equipment:** VERT has accumulated, through donations and fundraising efforts, veterinary rescue equipment which is located in the VERT Rescue trailer parked at the VMTH. Recently a Ford F350 Federal Equipment origin, 4 door, 1 ton truck was donated to VERT which can be permanently hooked up to the VERT trailer for deployment and training.

**Cost:** An official VERT response results in a charge to the owner for supplies and mileage. The opportunity to expose students to this type of specialty rescue is invaluable. Additionally, VERT holds fundraisers and maintains a donation and gift account.

**Donations:** <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/clubs/VERT/fundraiser.html>

**See UC Davis Page 10**

**UC Davis Continued**

**Call-Out System:** VERT maintains a current list of deployable members, members that have completed the required training and certifications. When a call is received, the dispatch center will contact the VERT Duty Officer and the triage process will be initiated. If a VERT deployment is warranted, the Duty Officer will alert the D-VERT team members.

**Additional Information:**

**VERT-Medical Reserve Corps (MRC):** In January of 2008, the UC Davis VERT expanded to become the first veterinary MRC in the state of California. The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), is a civilian volunteer organization sponsored by the Office of the Surgeon General. As a MRC, VERT may be mobilized for large-scale human health response, such as wide-scale vaccination in an epidemic, and to provide assistance with animals in national disasters.

**Cal EMA Department of Homeland Security approved training courses:** The required courses listed for our D-VERT team members are courses that UC Davis IAWTI has been awarded Federal ID #'s for setting the standard and creating training curriculum that integrates veterinary medicine into specialized technical rescues and disaster responses. As such, the role of UC Davis VERT is in a unique position to also set the standards at other veterinary universities for establishing a professional, organized, efficient and safe Veterinary Emergency Response Team.

For further information:

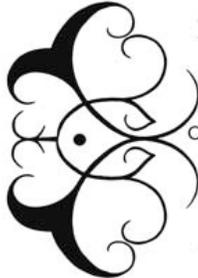
Dr. John Madigan: [jemadigan@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jemadigan@ucdavis.edu)

Dr. Cheryl Ellis: [clellis@ucdavis.edu](mailto:clellis@ucdavis.edu)

UC Davis-Veterinary Emergency Response Team [facebook.com/UCDavisVERT](https://www.facebook.com/UCDavisVERT)



**GCTC NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOU!!**  
 Remember we need your input to the newsletter. Articles/pictures of GCTC activities, rides, workdays, camp outs, or other information of interest to GCTC members would be appreciated.  
 Submission deadline for the Nov/Dec 2012 Newsletter will be Wednesday, October 31.  
 Articles/pictures should be sent to Lynn Mangel, Editor ([quailhollowpv@me.com](mailto:quailhollowpv@me.com))



**LUCIE TETRAULT, MFT**  
**InSight Psychotherapy**  
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 TEL: (530) 579-2708  
[www.InSight-Psychotherapy.com](http://www.InSight-Psychotherapy.com)

**GCTC LONEY WORKDAY**

With excited anticipation several members of GCTC drove East on Hwy 20 to meet at Loney Meadow. Our goal was to perform some maintenance on the trails in the area. After setting up our camps, we set off on horseback in different directions to see what work was needed. I had contacted Joe Chavez of USFS before I left home and he had asked that we check out the



connector trail to the Bowman Mountain Trail, the trail around the meadow and the trail from the meadow to Bull Pen Lake. What a coinkydink! That was what we had planned to do!



Friday evening we talked about what each of us had noted on our trail rides and made a plan for the Saturday workday.

We had two teams and one took each side of the meadow. One team continued on to the connector trail and the other team worked their



way up to Bull Pen Lake. With only 11 members, we had a very successful and effective workday. I apologize to Val Logsdon and Tom Wilson who both

hand carried heavy tools while on horseback. We didn't realize that Willie and his crew would have already completed the project by the time we got there. Bull Pen Lake now has a very visible trail to the creek crossing. That crossing is still steep and narrow, but we could not find a better place to cross.



The connector trail to the Bowman Mountain Trail has been cleared of overhanging branches and as many small trees as could be cut or removed off of the trail. There are still places on all of the trails, which have very large trees across them. The USFS has been notified and the hope is that they will be able to send some large chain saws up to remove the offending blockages.

Participants were: Trail Boss - Teri Personeni, Workday Boss - Willie Brusin, Hard working members - Karen Schwartz, Sue Brusin, Brad and Merrill Weston, Tom Wilson, Gigi Lawton, Jaede Miloslavich, Lori Moniz and Val Logsdon.



Saturday

night we enjoyed a wonderful potluck dinner. I continue to be impressed with the culinary skills of our members. From appetizers to dessert, the meal was a delight to the taste buds!! With the high fire danger, we were not able to have a campfire. ☹ We did manage to roast marshmallows over Willie's gas BBQ so we could have S'mores. ☺

We logged a total of 42 trail work hours, which I will report to Joe Chavez.

Thank you all who participated. We got a lot of work done and had fun doing it.

**Submitted by, Teri Personeni**

Gold Country Trails Council  
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting  
August 14, 2012  
Coldwell Banker Realty  
855 Sutton Way  
Grass Valley, Ca 95945

In the absence of Secretary Karen Schwartz Teri Personeni recorded the minutes.

Officers present: Helen Harvey, Melissa Ribley, Kathy Southgate, Jeff Foltz, Vicki Testa

Officers absent: John Connelly, Karen Schwartz

Forest Service Liaison present: Willie Brusin

General Members present: Sue Brusin, Mary Johnson, Teri Personeni

The executive board meeting of GCTC was opened by President Helen Harvey at 7 p.m. at 855 Sutton Way, Grass Valley; the Coldwell Banker Realty office.

The minutes were posted on the club website and been read, they were approved by general consensus.

Treasurer Report:

Kathy Southgate reported the club has \$14,529.12 in the bank.

Old Business:

- a. Empire Mine porta-potty- Gaited Horse Club has pledged a donation, but no check has yet been received. The cost of this potty and the one at Gold Country Equestrian Trailhead near the Lone grave cost \$175 per month. It was moved by Melissa Ribley and seconded by Vicki Testa that a second letter will be sent to those affiliates who have been contacted in the past. If there are no donations by Sept. 30 [or 30 days from mailing of this letter] the Empire Mine potty will be removed.
- b. 5 year plan: a Bear Yuba Land Trust representative will be at the September meeting to present proposed trails at Rice's Crossing and on PG&E land near Bowman Lake Road.
- c. Electronic availability of GCTC policies and procedures forms. No action
- d. Membership dues cost evaluation: In the absence of John Connelly, Mary Johnson detailed dues of other clubs. There was discussion about raising dues for the club. A motion was made by Kathy Southgate and seconded by Melissa Ribley to raise the dues to \$25 per year. Motion passed.
- e. President Helen Harvey reported that she will submit a bill for 3 - 32" Fiskar PowerGear loppers for the club. Don and Ginny Dix have donated \$100 toward the purchase of my loppers.
- f. Insurance - there will be a representative at the October board meeting

New business:

- a. Gail Plakos has volunteered to be the refreshment chair for our meetings.
- b. Poker Ride recap
  - i] Recommendation: \$25 if registered no less than a week before the ride; \$30 at the ride.
  - ii] Added a task list and timeline for each job; added food chair for next year.
  - iii] The ride grossed \$4278 this year, which netted approximately \$4100.
- c. T shirts - Melissa will get cost of silk screened club t-shirts and vests
- d. other new business -
  - i] Melissa will order rock for the reroute of the trail at the water line in Skillman if at least 10 people volunteer for that workday.
  - ii] There is no camp host at Skillman campground. The host from White Cloud come one a day.
  - iii] Teri asked where the signed liability sheets go after a workday. They go to Melissa Ribley.

## USFS Report: Willie Brusin

Next year we should move our workday efforts to the trail to Penner Lake

Upper Pioneer Trail Ride 9/15 - contact Sue Brusin

Lone Grave workday 9/29 will focus on Harmony Trail - contact - Sue Brusin

United Trails Day is 10/13

Club Ride and BBQ- Gold Country Equestrian Staging area -Sue Brusin trail contact. Need a Food/BBQ person

The club granted approval for Willie to get an aluminum sign "Caution Horses on Trail" for the users going down Hallelujah Trail.

## Announcements:

Sept. speaker will be Debby Murphy from V-6 ranch about riding vacations.

Mary read a letter from Rhonda Bollinger from Gardnerville, NV. Rhonda expressed her admiration and gratitude to GCTC for the trail work we do. She enclosed a check for \$122 to cover her dues and a donation.

Meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m.

Teri Personeni  
acting Secretary

# Gold Country Trails Council Membership Form

*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.*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (Renewable annually in September)

Membership:       Individual                                       Family (all signatures needed on release form)

Renewal                                       New  
 Equestrian                                       Bicyclist                                       Hiker/Pedestrian

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Check this box if you **DO NOT** want your contact information listed in the GCTC Club phone book.

*The phone book is for club use only.*

*Stay informed, stay involved! Please check the communication option(s) that best meet your needs:*

Announcements:     Email             Telephone reminder for club activities     Do not phone

Newsletter:             Email             Postal mail

## Gold Country Trails Council welcomes donations

If you are unable to participate in the workdays, please consider a donation towards your favorite project. (Include your check with membership form and fee).

To enable us to utilize your many skills and interests, we ask that you check those activities which you can assist the GCTC. Please add to the list under "other" if there is something we may have overlooked.

Thank you for your cooperation. Every little bit helps!

Advertising/Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Artwork/Graphics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Writing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Horse Camping	<input type="checkbox"/>
Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Phone Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Photography	<input type="checkbox"/>
Refreshments	<input type="checkbox"/>	Signs/Maps/GPS	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tool Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trail Ride (lead/organize)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trail Work	<input type="checkbox"/>	Webpage/Design	<input type="checkbox"/>
Woodworking/Welding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Workday Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Workday (lead/organize)	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Would you consider serving as an officer of the GCTC Board?      Yes       No

Would you consider serving as a Board Member of the GCTC?      Yes       No

Would you consider chairing a GCTC committee?      Yes       No

Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

To join, please complete and mail this form with membership fee of \$25.00, payable to:

**Gold Country Trails Council, Inc.**

P.O. Box 753, Cedar Ridge, CA 95924

(100% tax deductible as a charitable contribution)

*(Please sign the release form below or on the reverse of this application for our files)*

**RELEASE FROM ALL LIABILITY**

**This is a binding legal document. Read it carefully before signing below.**

I understand that the Gold Country Trails Council sponsors and organizes a variety of events, including, but not limited to, equestrian trail rides and overnight campouts, trail building and work days, tack sales, membership meetings, potluck dinners, and other social events. Gold Country Trails Council events are non-alcoholic.

In consideration of the acceptance of my application for membership in the Council or permission to participate in these events, I agree to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Gold Country Trails Council, its officers, members, agents, employees, and representatives, from and against all claims, suits, actions, or liabilities (including any of the foregoing by way of indemnification or contribution), for personal injuries, property damage or loss, death, or for attorney fees, which are based on or arise out of my participation in such events. This release applies to all such claims, suits, actions, or liabilities, even though they may arise out of or be based on the negligence, lack of care, or other fault on the part of the persons listed above.

In signing this release I acknowledge that (a) equestrian events and activities involving horses involve risks which may result in serious personal injuries, property damage or loss, or death, (b) that trails and areas for equestrian events may consist of rough trails, steep or unstable terrain, water hazards, wild animals, and other natural or manmade obstacles and dangers, and that I may expect to encounter such areas in their natural condition without any preparation or safeguards designed for equestrian activities, and (c) that horses themselves may create dangers because of kicking, running away, throwing riders off, and other disruptive and uncontrollable behaviors.

I am sufficiently skilled in riding horses, and am sufficiently physically fit, to participate in the equestrian events listed above.

This release is binding on my heirs, executors, administrators, and personal representatives.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ DATED: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY ON BEHALF OF MINOR**

I, the undersigned parent or guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, address: \_\_\_\_\_, age(s): \_\_\_\_\_, have read, and having legal authority to do so, agree to all of the foregoing provisions of the **RELEASE FROM ALL LIABILITY** on behalf of such minor and myself. I authorize any supervisory personnel to consent on my behalf to any necessary emergency medical treatment for such minor by a properly licensed or qualified person, and I agree to indemnify and hold harmless any persons giving such consent in accordance with the foregoing **RELEASE FROM ALL LIABILITY**.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ DATED: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ DATED: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_