

Meeting date | time 7/8/2015 6:00 AM | Meeting location Gila Regional Medical Center

Meeting called by	Doug Dexter	Attendees
Type of meeting	Monthly business meeting	Joan Bacon, Cathy Brett, Cassie Dexter Carver, Cindi deCapiteau, Joan Dewbre, Dixie Dexter, Doug Dexter, Mike Dowd, Vicki Dowd, Gerry Engel, Jean Hill, Andrea Imler, David Imler, Nancy Imler, Mickey Lemon, Rawlings Lemon, Mara Miles, Ted Miles, Cheryl Roth, Donna Tillmann, Karla Watson, Mark Watson, Nat Williams, Pat Wolfe
Note taker	Cindi deCapiteau	

AGENDA TOPICS

Agenda topic Recognize guests and new members | Presenter Doug Dexter

We welcomed Karla Watson and Mark Watson this evening. They moved here two months ago from Oregon and now reside in Arenas Valley. They have a home-based business that produces high-quality decals and bumper stickers. They have two paso fino horses and are eager to explore the mind-blowing trails of the Gila region.

Karla and Mark commented that they did a lot of backcountry riding in Oregon and Washington State and they enjoy horse camping. They got spoiled in the northwest because Oregon has 50 camps with lots of sites and corrals that are maintained by horse people. The downside up that-a-way is that all camping has to happen in July and August because in Oregon the rest of the year is too wet.

Karla and Mark are endurance riders and were involved with Oregon equestrian trails organizations. They are empty nesters who moved to Silver City because Portland is too crowded and horses are getting pushed out.

Agenda topic Secretary's report | Presenter Cindi deCapiteau

Cindi deCapiteau advised that the iniquitous 404 error delivered to those who tried to access the GBCH minutes for May has been corrected. May is the last month for which minutes were published because instead of crowding into the GRMC conference room for a business meeting, we played hooky with horses at the Celebration site east of Lake Roberts.

Perhaps because the 404 error prevented all but the most persistent observers from reading the minutes, nobody requested changes or corrections. The minutes shall stand as (finally) published.

Agenda topic *Financial and membership report* | Presenter *Jean Hill*

Money went in and money went out. See the attached financial report on page 9 for details. Note that the much-ballyhooed general liability insurance issue, which has been cooking for heaven-knows-how-long, has baked into something resembling policy. You can tell because we're paying premiums for it.

Doug Dexter noted that the acquisitive money people at Gila Regional Medical Center have discovered a previously unfished revenue stream. The hospital now charges \$10 an hour for use of the conference room in which we meet. Although the roughly \$15 a month (for a 90-minute meeting) isn't exactly a crushing operating expense, it nevertheless an expense must be met. The ever-creative and thoughtful Doug Dexter, acting as a prudent person in pursuit of his presidential profession, recommended conducting a 50/50 raffle at every meeting. The proceeds would be divided equally between the winning ticket holder and the hospital, so our scintillating meetings must raise a minimum of \$20—and more if our vital discussions take more than an hour of treasured conference room time. The attending members affirmed Doug's proposal, so that's how it's gonna be.

We will likely never know how much our monthly contribution to the hospital's well-being helps the facility keep its financial head above water.

Fortunately, the Gila chapter now has 54 members, so if they all show up at the next meeting, it should be a piece of cake to raise funds for the conference room rental, but difficult to fit everybody in.

Agenda topic *Publicity* | Presenter *Ted Miles*

The first GBCH horse article has been published in *The Independent*. The article celebrates the Gila Chapter's Adopt-a-Highway projects. If you missed the article, the secretary intended to scan the article and attach it to these minutes, but her copy has disappeared. Oh well.

Ted Miles advised that he received an email from Shannon Seyler at the Silver City *Sun-News*. The newspaper wants to do an article on GBCH and our SAR activities. Ted sent background information, but Shannon might also want to interview somebody and Ted suggested Gerry Engel, Mickey Lemon and Rawlings Lemon, who graciously agreed to take on the task. Ted will tell Shannon about interviewees.

Ted also conveyed Mara Miles' follow-up to her mention a couple of months ago about the season's outbreak of rattleweed. The Grant County Extension Service is planning to make some presentations on the subject, which livestock owners will find relevant because cattle are suffering from locoweed intoxication from Silver City to Deming.

Action items

Person responsible

Report names of interview candidates to Shannon Seyler

Ted Miles

Agenda topic *Public Service/Communications* | Presenter *Gerry Engel*

Gerry Engel was uncharacteristically quiet about GBCH trail work, but he did allow that the chapter has cleared around 50 miles of trail this year.

Agenda topic *Equine evacuation* | Presenter *Doug Dexter*

Since fire season is pretty much a bust this year, this is a good time (there being reduced pressure from fire danger) to review your equine evacuation plan (download our ultra cool and universally acclaimed manual from <https://gilabchnm.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/equineevacuation2014.pdf>) and to increase your understanding of the chapter's emergency call tree.

You'll remember that the call tree is intended to get emergency information out to chapter members in a manner that resembles efficiency (unlike the pandemonium that normally characterizes a community emergency). The idea is that somebody calls somebody, who calls somebody, who calls somebody else until information—which presumably doesn't get transformed into gibberish in the transmission—has been disseminated throughout the membership. Doug Dexter reported that the call tree is now up to date and, with the exception of Tim Wolcott's area code, is accurate. Doug also has guidelines for operation of the call tree and wants feedback. Everybody needs to get ahold of this stuff if you didn't pick it up at the meeting.

Although the tree's organization was originally planned to be a regional thing, Doug commented that as he pondered this business, he realized that a more random organization would probably work better. If an emergency affects the region you live in, all your friends and neighbors will be too busy to fiddle around with making telephone calls, so a cross-region call strategy makes sense.

Action items

Person responsible

Change Tim Wolcott's telephone number on call tree. Needs a 585 area code. Doug Dexter

Agenda topic *GCSAR* | Presenter *Doug Dexter*

At the June horse camp (more information below), Laurie Wlosinski facilitated an exercise with the legendary Dead Bob, a corn-stuffed manikin used by search-and-rescue trainees in simulations of corpse handling. The SAR volunteers in our midst, on the basis of instructions read from a SAR manual by Laurie, secured Poor Dead Bob (who was leaking corn in his Stokes basket) in a shroud and loaded him onto the Imler clan's little grey mare, who accepted the assignment gracefully. The mare's diminutive size prompted a ghoulish onlooker to comment that a larger horse would perhaps be better suited to carry the 180 lb. Dead Bob—and indeed, the *Official Guide to Dead Bob* advises that a cadaver horse needs to be the largest horse available.

Agenda topic *Adopt-a-Highway* | Presenter *Cindi deCapiteau*

The chapter's perpetual roadside litter coordinator offered to hold a cleanup detail in July. The proposal was promptly hollered down by members who prefer cooler weather to work on the sunny side of the street out there between US 180 mile markers 108 and 109 (109 and 108 if you're traveling west). Watch this space for information about a September trash pickup.

Agenda topic *Dutch Oven Cookoff Status* | Presenter *Rawlings Lemon*

The proposition that the Gila Chapter might assume sponsorship for our region's Dutch oven cookoff hasn't grown legs yet, according to Rawlings Lemon (who didn't describe the matter with quite those words). Bottom line: No developments. Rawlings has requested information—but hasn't received it—from the former Glenwood cookoff manager, so the matter is in limbo.

The North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC, <http://www.natrc.org/>) is an organization that provides "long-distance competitive trail rides and clinics for riders of all equine breeds and from all disciplines." The Gila BCH chapter has decided to sponsor a NATRC event for April 29-May 1, 2016 in cooperation with and using facilities at the NAN Ranch (a.k.a. Y Bar NAN Ranch, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NAN_Ranch). Vicki Dowd has assembled a steering committee to organize the event (the committee consists of Vicki Dowd, Judy Lawson, Rawlings Lemon, Donna Tillmann, and Ilene Wignall). With such talented and eager people on board, Vicki advises that planning for the ride is moving along.

The steering committee recently met at NAN Ranch to tour the venue and talk with the principals out there. Seems the site is delightful and entirely adequate for the coming event. There's plenty of water and a beautiful campsite on the banks of the Mimbres River.

Vicki outlined the jobs that need filling to get the show on the road (see job descriptions beginning on page 10). Of these, the most important is the ride secretary, who receives entries and channels payments to Jean Hill. This position needs to be filled by the fall of 2015. Vicki said she will work closely with the ride secretary.

Other critical jobs are the awards coordinators, who beat the bushes for sponsors and donations from livestock feed stores, grocers, tack shops, outfitters, Chamber of Commerce, banks, Freeport McMoRan, vehicle dealers, gun shops, hunting groups, hiking groups—and any individual or organization with an interest in supporting the work of the Back Country Horsemen. Sponsors can be solicited from anywhere—they don't have to be limited to Silver City.

Vicki advised that NATRC has all the essentials organized on its website (link above) and has resources to help the ride staff every step of the way. In addition, there are people in northern New Mexico who have done this before and will be very helpful.

Event dates: April 29, 30, May 1, 2016.

Some event particulars:

- U Check-in and set up camp, Friday (April 29)
- U Judged ride for novices: 20 miles Saturday (April 30), 17 miles on Sunday (May 1).
- U Judged ride for open riders: 30 miles April 30, 20 miles on May 1.
- U Breakfast provided Saturday and Sunday; volunteers eat free.
- U Barbeque on Saturday night (April 30)

Vickie asked that GBCH members begin lining up now to take on one of the jobs so she can start training early and ensure that everybody is confident. The jobs need to be filled by the end of October so we know who is doing what and all the sponsors are lined up.

So step up, folks! You'll be glad you did.

Action items

Person responsible Deadline

Review job descriptions (page 10)	Everybody	August 15, 2015
Pick one or more jobs of interest and talk to Vicki Dowd (get Vicki's contact information from the GBCH roster).	Everybody	September 1, 2015

Agenda topic *4th of July Parade* | Presenter *Doug Dexter et al*

Everybody knows that THE best part of any parade is horses, and several members of the Gila BCH chapter delighted Silver City's citizens by participating in the burg's 2015 Fourth of July parade. (This isn't the first time the GBCH has done so. Members have tlot-tlot-tlotted down the street in at least two previous parades.) This year's riders: Cassie Dexter Carver and Magic, Dixie Dexter and Alegra, Doug Dexter and Calvin, Ted Miles and Freddy, Cindi deCapiteau and Mia, Cheryl Roth and Prince. Jad Carver, Fran Rawllins, and Stan Rawllins staffed the horse apples tractor-and-wagon, which was so skillfully decorated with BCH banners, bunting, and flags that its true purpose was hidden from most observers.

The parade officials ordered line-up at 8:30 a.m. The procession began to pull out (at a glacial pace) at 10:00 a.m., but we were 37th in a line of over 50 entrants and everybody had to mill around for a long time among the uproar of booming sound systems, dancers, skaters, bicycles, balloons, horses from two other groups, snazzy vehicles. The horses performed admirably in the chaos—no mishaps—but next year we'll join the line-up at 9:30 a.m.

The parade had a lot of stop-and-go (with more stop than go) in it, so we took to circling the horses during the standstills. The bottom line was that in the half-mile parade route, we ended up riding five miles. Dixie observed that we looked like a drill team and somebody else commented that it would be a good idea to work up some kind of choreography for next year's parade. As it happens, one of this evening's guests, Karla Watson, is a mounted drill instructor, so there's a future in the idea.

When the judging results appeared in the paper a couple of days after the parade, GBCH came in third of the three mounted entries. With Karla's guidance, perhaps we'll rank higher in the future.

At tonight's meeting, Ted Miles noted that we missed a recruitment opportunity during the parade. We need to have available a sign-up sheet on poop vehicle for people who want to join our merry band.

Action items

Person responsible

Discuss drill strategy with Karla Watson

Cindi deCapiteau

Set up recruitment sign-up mechanics

Ted Miles

Agenda topic *Rodeo volunteer report* | Presenter *Doug Dexter et al*

A bunch of GBCH members earned \$400 for the chapter by handling parking at the Southwest Horsemen's Association rodeo in June. Doug expressed thanks to all who participated. The job was easy and fun and involved only a couple of hours' time each evening. Doug asked for feedback about ways to improve the operation, to which somebody responded that the parking field needs to be mowed before somebody's hot catalytic converter sets fire to the facility. In addition, the rutted and rocky ramps down to the parking areas need to be fixed. Doug said he'll convey the information to Tyler Brown.

Action items

Person responsible

Request parking lot mowing and improvements from SW Horsemen's Association

Doug Dexter

Agenda topic *June Horse Camp*

The 2015 GBCH horse camp was held again at the Celebration site in the Mimbres, east of Lake Roberts. Enthusiasm for the event was inhibited after Dawn Byrum's horse died suddenly, probably from the

rupture of an aortic aneurysm. Doug expressed thanks to everybody whose compassionate work helped move the horse out of the site and to those who attended to Dawn during the ordeal. Doug noted that Dawn wasn't riding when the horse died, so she was never in any danger herself.

June was hot this year (when isn't June hot in the Gila?) and somebody proposed that we hold next year's camp in July or later when the weather is cooler.

Somebody else floated a proposal to hold the next camp up at a site near Quemado, which Mickey Lemon says offers fresh territory and a wider range of trails than Celebration does. The Quemado location is a three-hour drive from Silver City, so that's something for us to ponder.

The NAN Ranch was also suggested as a venue not only for the GBCH horse camp, but also for the state rendezvous, since rustlings in the bushes suggest that it's about time for the rendezvous to be hosted in the southern part of New Mexico. Doug will talk to the NAN folks to see if they're willing to host the rendezvous.

Action items

Person responsible

Discuss state rendezvous with NAN Ranch

Doug Dexter

Agenda topic *State Rendezvous* | Presenter *Fran Rawllins, Stan Rawllins*

And speaking of the state BCH rendezvous, Stan and Fran have information about the 2015 event, which they'll distribute by email, but which (because the secretary dilly-dallied with getting the minutes out) is also attached to this document on page 13).

And speaking of email, the Gila chapter will no longer show individual email addresses on emails about GBCH business. If you need an address or other information about a chapter member, get the current roster from Jean Hill.

Agenda topic *Education segments and ideas* | Presenter *Cheryl Roth*

Ideas: [Conversation]

- Trail surveys for possible clearing projects
- Using and enhancing the Gila BCH website
- Survivor fire-starting ideas

On the topic of survivor fire-starting ideas, Cheryl related a recent experience. During the June 2015 horse camp, Cheryl and Donna Tillmann found themselves in a hailstorm on the wrong side of the rapidly rising Skates Creek. While they waited for the floodwater to recede, Cheryl thought to test her adverse-conditions fire-starting skills and came up kinda short. Back at home, Cheryl researched emergency fire-starting and found an outstanding technique. You smear a cotton ball generously with Vaseline and put a match to it. In a subsequent rainstorm, she experimented, using wet sticks piled over the flaming cotton torch. It worked. Vaseline-smearred cotton balls take up very little saddlebag space when packed in a prescription bottle, but be sure to have a lighter and matches in there too.

Gerry Engel mentioned that Adam Mendonca is the new supervisor for the Gila National Forest. He might be interested in presenting what he knows about starting fires. Cheryl will follow up.

The evening's guest educator was Dr. John Wentzel, who expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to discuss general matters for equines in New Mexico. A list follows of Dr. Wentzel's major points:

- **Diseases affecting horses in New Mexico:** Vesicular stomatitis (VS) is endemic throughout the United States. In New Mexico, the "index case" (the first known occurrence of VS) is in Grant County. VS is a disease veterinarians see frequently, but don't know as much about it as they would like. They know a virus causes the disease, but its epidemiology is not understood. VS is believed to be spread by midges that come up on southern breezes from Mexico. It affects horses, cattle, and other cloven-hoof species. It causes blisters in a horse's mouth and also causes the epithelium (the outer layer) of an infected animal's tongue to slough. Although the disorder is not deadly (untreated animals recover), it is a concern in the livestock industry because the signs of VS look exactly like foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in cattle, which is the most contagious disease known to livestock. (FMD itself doesn't cause mortality, but is highly contagious and interferes with production to the extent that infected animals are usually culled and non-infected animals are vaccinated.) The signs of VS are excessive slobbering and blisters (which are rarely visible) on the tongue, coronary band, and udder. An animal suspected of harboring VS is quarantined for 14 days. In horses, VS can be transmitted through exchange of a bit used on an infected animal. Once an index case of VS is identified, all horses that present with the characteristic signs are assumed to be VS-infected. The bottom line? If you notice excessive drooling or lesions in a horse's mouth (which you might see when biting your horse), get the animal examined immediately, especially if your horse lives among or close to cattle.
- West Nile is a communicable encephalitic virus that is thought to be vectored by mosquitos. Both the county and state agricultural authorities in New Mexico are always looking for West Nile, and therefore conduct ongoing mosquito trapping. Vaccination against West Nile is cheap and effective and should be administered annually, from two to three weeks before mosquito season—the middle of April and after.
- Equine infectious anemia (EIA), the disease for which our horses get annual blood drawn for a Coggins test, is transmitted from unsanctioned horses moved into the United States from Mexico. See <http://www.thehorse.com/articles/14885/equine-infectious-anemia-symptoms-and-control> for more information about EIA.
- Equine piroplasmiasis (EP) is a parasitic disease, vectored initially from a tick bite, that results in the rupture of red blood cells. Affected horses are lethargic, thin, and dull, but clinical signs are not evident with many horses that test positive for EP. EP is easily transmitted from one horse to another. A horse diagnosed with EP must be euthanized or maintained in an insect-free environment for the rest of its life. Some treatments exist for EP, but according to the American Association of Equine Practitioners, treatment of EP in the U.S. is only permissible if the horse is enrolled in a USDA supervised research program. The new Mexico Racing Commission is aggressive in reacting to the potential for EP. Testing for EP is mandatory for all New Mexico racinos. See <http://www.aaep.org/info/horse-health?publication=758> for more information about EP.
- Rabies. Like any mammal, horses can contract rabies from bites by an infected bat, coyote, house cat, raccoon, etc. Rabies is prominent in the west and south-southwest areas of New Mexico.
- Venezuelan equine encephalitis is not common in our area.
- **Vaccinations:** Annual vaccinations make a lot of sense, especially if you haul your horse into different parts of the U.S. All horses should receive the usual "combo" vaccination (for our area: West Nile, western equine encephalitis, tetanus, rabies and —especially if you haul to other states, rhinopneumonitis and equine influenza). A practical strategy is to vaccinate twice a year—a combo+rabies in the spring, followed by rhinopneumonitis and flu in the fall.

- **Snakebite vaccination and treatment.** Horses can receive snakebites, of course, and rattlesnakes warrant a watchful eye. However, in Dr. Wentzel's opinion, rattlesnake vaccinations are not worth using. His reasoning is based on the fact that safety studies for rattlesnake vaccine were never done. Trials of the vaccine showed an antibody response in mice (but presumably not in horses). Dr. Wentzel speculates that the vaccination might help, but there is little scientific evidence for its efficacy in horses. Moreover, rattlesnake bites for horses are a big deal only if the horse is bitten on the leg (because the leg has insufficient soft tissue to absorb the toxins). Dr. Wentzel has seen, in 30 years of veterinary practice, only two or three horses that experienced difficulty breathing from a snakebite to the face—a condition that can be mediated by inserting a breathing tube in the horse's nose. Although following a snakebite a horse can get pretty sick and thin for a while, recovery is facilitated by administration of dexamethasone, usually 20-25cc injected into a vein, which stops progression of the snakebite response. Because snakebite is usually accompanied by a heavy load of bacteria from the snake's mouth, tetanus is a byproduct of snakebite, so snakebite is also treated with plenty of penicillin. Bute won't help much, but if it's all you have on hand to treat a snakebite in the field, administer it. The best strategy is to get dexamethasone on board ASAP. Snakebite antivenin is expensive and requires a huge dose for a horse, so probably isn't feasible. Do keep banamine and dexamethasone in your first aid kit. Give all shots in the neck, and distribute dexamethasone over two or three different locations.
- **Sanctioning of animals imported from Mexico:** Although contagions can occur from horses imported from Mexico to the United States, the risk of horse-to-horse disease transmission is greatly reduced by policies and procedures that govern the crossing of livestock—especially cattle—over the international border. Before an animal can enter the U.S., many tests are required, as well as examinations for external parasites. Animals are tested for certain diseases before they cross the border and Mexico does a good job of documenting and tracking livestock. Before animals are allowed to cross into the U.S., USDA veterinarians examine each animal in pens on the Mexico side. Once animals pass the USDA inspections, they are dipped and placed temporarily in a drip pan. Only then do border patrol agents open gates on both sides of the border and allow animals to cross.
- **Horse slaughter and identification:** Very few horses bound for slaughter in Mexico (where they must go because the U.S. has outlawed horse slaughter) are sick. The process is strictly regulated so that sick and adequately identified horses are removed from transport before they get to the border. All horses bound for Mexico must be scanned for microchips. Their brands must be inspected before they can get off the truck. New Mexico has the best brand laws and enforcement in the United States, particularly with the NM requirement that any horse transported in the state must have a permanent brand inspection certificate (as well as a negative Coggins certificate). It's relatively easy to sneak unbranded horses into Mexico, so it's worth the trouble and expense to brand a horse (the bad guys don't mess with horses that are branded).

Agenda topic Announcements

Cheryl Roth confessed that during the June horse camp, she and Donna Tillmann went for a ride. They had an InReach with them, but they didn't tell anybody where they were going. (Oops.) The two rode to the falls in Scates Canyon and had lunch. Skates Creek held no water, but 10 minutes after they arrived, rain started coming down hard. Their rain gear equipment consisted of 89-cent shower curtain ponchos. Hail accompanied the rain, at first just pea-sized, but quickly came down the size of quarters. Donna's horse over-reacted and things got dicey for a minute while everybody hid under a tree. When the

weather broke, they began walking the horses and heard an ominous sound. Their first water crossing was full of mud and rocks rolling in the flood. The ladies waited 45 minutes for water to recede. Cheryl threw a rock in and watched the water roll it away. Cheryl reminded us to tell people where you're going, to pack a slicker, and have fire-starting gear on board.

(bank statements available at meeting)

Bank Balance May 18, 2015 **\$1,885.33**

Credits

6/9/15	\$ 30.00	membership, Redd
6/9/15	\$ 400.00	Rodeo reimburse for Parking

Debits

5/28	#1282	\$ 318.66	General Liability payment to State
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Bank Balance June 15, 2015 **\$1,996.89**

Transactions after June 15 - NONE. July 6 balance **\$1,996.89**

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Membership Update/Email List - with Mackie Redd rejoining in June, our total is 54 members,
17 families and 19 singles.

NAN Ranch Ride Volunteers Needed Weekend of April 29, 30, and May 1

Some volunteer work is also needed before that weekend. All volunteers at the Ride will need to sign a waiver of responsibility for our Ride and another waiver for the NAN Ranch. All volunteers the weekend of the Ride will have breakfast furnished, as well as being given a ticket for the Saturday evening banquet. Sandwich makings will be available in the Lodge kitchen for you to make your own lunch. We appreciate everyone's help. Anyone who comes with you as a non-volunteer can purchase the Saturday evening banquet for 12.00.

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Thanks to all who stopped after our July 8 meeting to offer help for the NAN Ranch Ride.

To those who already volunteered and for anyone considering volunteering, the following is a list of tasks that need filling. I guarantee you will have fun AND learn a lot. Just watching the horses get vetted in is a seminar in equine soundness AND the camp surroundings are fabulous.

RIDE SECRETARY: This is the job that lasts longest. Do you have a sense of humor and are you detail oriented? Humor and friendliness are important because you represent BCH as the person everyone meets when they check-in on Friday afternoon. You will have prepared an envelope with their rider #s, ride weekend schedule, and map of the camp. You collect any money due. You also have to be firm at times and stick to what the ride entry form says. You should ask a couple of friends to assist you at check-in, so riders do not have to wait. They have already driven a long distance and want to get their camp set up and make their horses comfortable.

The Ride Secretary starts by working with the Ride Chairman months before the ride to make sure the entry form is on-line through the Region 3 Website and is available in print to be sent out, preparing rider packets, receiving entries, getting score cards and other forms from the national office of NATRC, and placing them in the judges' books so everything is ready for the judges to begin when they arrive.

Ride results also need to be sent to the NATRC national office within 2 weeks after the ride. A step-by-step outline and time frame has been prepared by NATRC for you to use as a guideline. Modest computer skills are necessary.

P&R CREW: Need 12+ people on this crew. You will be trained (it will take about 6 minutes) and you will have experienced people on the 2 P&R teams with which to work. You need to be able to be reasonably quiet—no serial talkers need apply—because the horses need to be as calm as possible when their Pulse and Respiration rates are taken. Crews leave before the riders a little before 7:00 a.m. to get into position. You will be out on the trail at several checkpoints during the day. Take your lunch and water with you. You can nap or chat until the horses come into the checkpoint and then you will be organized and busy for about 40 minutes at each checkpoint. The Open riders are VERY serious about what you record. If they ask for a recheck you call for the P&R Chairman to do it for you. Materials, including stethoscopes, are provided by NATRC. Take care of them and make sure they are turned in to the Ride Secretary after the last P&R. You will need your own watch with a sweep second hand.

HOSPITALITY / PARKING DIRECTOR- Be at the NAN Ranch by Friday noon and stay until all the horses have arrived. This could be until almost dark. Meet each vehicle as it comes into camp. There is controlled access at NAN Ranch so this should be easy to do. Give them a packet that will have welcome items and literature from Ride sponsors and Silver City/Grant County Tourism. We may also give out a welcome carrot for each horse. Then you direct them to the area they need to park depending on if they are entered as Open, Novice, or Competitive Pleasure. Direct any volunteers with horses to the management parking area.

CAMP STEWARD: This job requires checking the horses a couple of times a night for any signs of colic or other distress and notifying the owner. You will also honk your horn a number of times about 5:00 a.m.

to wake everyone up. You get to relax in camp during the day. Intercept any lookie-loos pulling off the highway to see what is going on and nicely tell them to scram.

TIMERS: Timers keep a record of the time each rider leaves camp, comes to the lunch stop, leave lunch stop, and arrives back in camp. It is the responsibility of each rider to check in and out with the Timer. It is a courtesy on the part of the timer to call out the riders' # 5 minutes before it is time to leave the lunch stop to give them the opportunity to saddle back up and be ready to leave. Timers will be taken to the lunch stop so do not need to use their own vehicles. Timers should bring a folding chair so they can be comfortable and several writing instruments in case one runs out. Timers need their own watch with a sweep second hand. This is an easy task, and an important one as time can be a factor in penalty points for the contestants. Timers will be shown how to record.

AWARDS: Very important position that starts months before by asking for sponsorships. Much of this can be delegated to people who do business with particular places. Award Chairman needs to coordinate so no business is asked by more than one person. Award Chairman will have list of necessary awards and will order ribbons, and be responsible for delivering the awards Sunday, May 1, by noon at the NAN Ranch, or see that the Ride Secretary has them in advance of the Ride weekend. Breed awards can be given out if they are sponsored by breed organizations or individuals. Breed awards do not have to be ribbons. The judges need to know, in advance, what breed awards are sponsored so they can compare the scores up accordingly. **AWARDS ARE A CRITICAL EXPENSE THAT WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE BCH PROFIT OF THIS EVENT. EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT AWARDS CHAIRMAN, PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO GET A 30 – 50 dollar SPONSORSHIP and coordinate through the Awards Chairman.**

SAFETY PERSONNEL: Since the trail will go into areas not accessible by 4W or ATV we need 2 safety riders each day to follow the novices and 2 safety riders for the Open division. You will stay well behind the Competing horses and will render assistance to rider or horse as needed. Obviously your horse needs to be in good condition and calm enough to be able to pony a strange horse if necessary. You will carry a first aid kit and a fully charged cell phone and possibly a 2way radio if we have HAM operators also volunteering that weekend. First aid kits and 2-way radios are supplied by Region 3. Return them to Ride Secretary at the end of the Ride. Safety riders need not ride both days.

BREAKFAST HONCHO and HELPERS: Breakfast is included in the entry fee. Breakfast burritos will be pre-made and refrigerated in the Lodge kitchen. All you have to do is serve them hot and clean up. One helper needs to be up by 5:30a.m. to get the oven pre-heated. Other helpers need to arrive by 5:45 to get burritos into the oven, make coffee, put out any other breakfast items, and clean up afterward so the kitchen will be ready for the caterer to begin fixing the evening meal. If we have a full 60 entries and make enough for our volunteers you will be heating up and serving about 100 burritos. The other 100 burritos stay refrigerated until Sunday morning when breakfast gets served again. The riders have a very narrow window to choke down breakfast because they have to begin timing out at 7:00 a.m. and have to feed their horses before they eat. You will be through serving by 6:45. Then you can relax till the next day. If you are interested in helping but can only do one day, let us know.

CLEAN-UP CREW- Riders are very good about cleaning their own camping area. Cleaning crew will see that trash bags are available especially around the eating areas and replaced if full. Police grounds for any trash after people begin to leave Sunday afternoon. Check public areas like bathrooms and kitchen and dump wastebaskets into trash bags. Spray sinks with foam cleaner and wipe countertops. We have been given a low rate to use the NAN Ranch if they don't have to hire janitorial staff because leave the property as clean as we found it.

PRE-RIDE TRAIL TESTERS – After the trail has been marked we need a few riders to test it in order to make sure that all trail marking can be seen clearly, there are no confusing places, that enough markers are there. Some riders will ride the Open Trail and some the Novice Trail. We also need riders to ride to test time allowed to finish the ride. This is not a race, but we need to establish a window of riding time in which the horse is paced according to safety dictated by terrain. Usually the novices will travel at about 4 MPH and the Open riders at 5-6 MPH. It is best if you don't bunch up but move your horse along at its own best rate taking into consideration the kind of ground you are on and the steepness of the trail. We

will take your numbers and use them as a mid-time around which the competitor will have 15 minutes on either side to finish the ride without penalty points. This would be done about 2-3 weeks prior to the actual event and would require camping and riding 2 days to simulate the speed a tired horse might do on the second day.

Being a Pre-Ride tester does not prevent you from entering the ride as it does not give your horse any great advantage.

TRAIL MARKING MAKERS - need a bunch of people to tie ribbons to clothespins to use as trail markers. You can do this on your own or we can have a PARTY and do it together. This can be done in the Fall or Winter as soon as the trail master knows how the trail will need to be marked. Supplies will be furnished.

PACKET STUFFERS - Need several people to help Ride Secretary stuff the rider packets so that all packets have everything in them. This would be done about 2 weeks before the Ride.

As time goes by we may have other volunteer positions but this does it for now. Please contact me if you need more information or want to do a particular job. Email is the most reliable way as I do not always have my phone handy, not to mention my hearing is weird. Here is my number anyway. 760 533 1897

Email is: vcartcat@hotmail.com

Thanks,

Vicki Dowd



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF NEW MEXICO
RENDEZVOUS 2015 MEADOW ALONG BONITO CREEK
LINCOLN NATIONAL FOREST
REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Chapter Affiliation _____

Name _____

Name _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ cell _____ E-mail _____

Registration includes participation in all activities planned and BCHNM commemorative items.

Registration: 4 days (Thursday, August 20 - Sunday, August 23)

Adults- \$40.00	# of Adult _____	x \$40.00	= _____
Children 13-18 are 1/2 price	# of Children _____	x \$20.00	= _____
Children 12 and under are free			

Total Registration _____

Liability Waiver

I/We realize there are inherent risks involved in all activities with equine animal and I/we hereby release BCHNM and its Officers\, directors and Membership, and the United States Forest Service from liability for any accident, injury, or death that may occur to myself/ourselves or my/our equine by participating in any Back Country Horsemen of America activity. In accordance with EQUINE LIABILITY ACT [42-13-1 NMSA 1978].

I/We further understand that I/we are fully responsible for our minor children and release BCHNM of any and all liability for any accident, injury, and/or death of any minor child. Children under the age of eighteen (18) years are not allowed to participate in any BCHA activity unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Signature of adults and/or guardian: _____

(Signature)

(Signature)

BCHNM policy: Stallions, dogs, cats and other pets are not permitted on rides. Dogs are allowed in your camp/vehicles restrained only. Not loose in camp and not on the trail.

I understand and agree to comply with the BCHNM dog policy.

(Signature)

Please familiarize yourself with the Leave No Trace guidelines,

[HTTP://WWW.BCHW.ORG/LNT/LNTBK.HTM](http://www.bchw.org/lnt/lntbk.htm)

I, _____, have read and agree to follow
the Leave No Trace guidelines during the Rendezvous 2015 in Lincoln National Forest.

**Make checks payable to: Back Country Horsemen of New Mexico (BCHNM) Mail
Registration to: Sam Prda, Treasurer. BCHNM**

#20 CR 3114 Aztec, NM 87410

Rendezvous 2015 Registration Information

Directions to the campsite for the 2015 Rendezvous:

From the north take Hwy. 380 east at San Antonio, just south of Socorro. Proceed through Carrizozo to the Nogal turn-off, which is Hwy. 37. (the Forest Road 107 into the Lincoln National Forest is 21 miles from Carrizozo).

Proceed through Nogal and down the hill to the entrance to the Lincoln National Forest at Forest Rd. 107. Turn right (west) onto FR 107 and proceed 4.9 miles to a road that forks to the left-- turn left, cross the creek, and proceed west along this road that follows Bonito Creek. The meadows along this road for the next two miles are where we will camp. The road comes out at Runnels' stables, so you can come in from that end as well.

Remember to set up your camp and horse containment at least 200 feet from the river.

From the south take Hwy. 70 to Ruidoso.

Turn left onto Mescalero just after a big hotel on the left. This takes you over to Sudderth st. Proceed to Meacham (Hwy. 48) and turn right. (Allsup's is on the right at this intersection). Proceed through Ruidoso on Hwy 48 down to the bottom of the mountain and take a left onto Hwy. 37. (7 miles from Ruidoso, more or less).

Within the first mile or two on Hwy. 37 you will come to the entrance to the Lincoln National Forest (FR 107) on your left, just at a curve in the highway to the right. It's easy to miss, so be watching closely for it. Proceed from here as above, 4.9 miles to the left fork in the road which takes you across Bonito Creek and up along it's far side, where we will camp in the meadows.

Things to Bring:

- Portable fence or high line to contain your equine.
- Water for personal use and equines. There is a stream but Leave No Trace guidelines must be followed.
- A horse related item or two to donate for the raffle on Saturday evening.
- One item valued at \$75.00 or more per chapter.
- If you have a shelter and/or tables for the common area please bring them.
- Folding chairs
- Manure fork and means to pack out manure

Saturday night dinner will be a potluck with a dutch oven cook-off. Sunday breakfast will be a community breakfast.

Saturday night Potluck: Each chapter attending will donate meat to serve 15 people, along with the following sides:

- Santa Fe- Appetizers Pecos- Desserts
- NW- Sides
- Lower Rio Grande- Potatoes Socorro- Salads
- Gila- Vegetables

Updates will be sent to registered participants